

RED TALES

Issue # 25 June 23, 2010

(612-726-2230) Newsletter of the MSP ESSC Shop Committee (612-201-0383)

Countdown To Departure#2 – Before the introduction of the ALIS system for aircraft load functions, Ramp Leads and ESEs had the ability to finalize all loads planeside on the scanning gun. A function was added that allowed the scanner operator to visually review exactly what was loaded in each bin of the aircraft prior to finalizing the load. This feature meant that the worker did not have to go inside to enter the load in a computer, but could still have confidence the load was correct. The number of load errors, which could impact aircraft safety, was cut down dramatically.

With the advent of ALIS all that has changed. Now a Lead, AIC or ALA can only visually review the finalized load if he/she goes inside to enter the load in the computer. Because the Lead is part of the crew, going inside to finalize the load is often difficult. Delta management is encouraging Leads to call the Load Control Center on the F Concourse with their loads. However, many Leads do not feel comfortable doing this because they have no opportunity to review the finalized load visually. Leads know that if a problem arises they will be held responsible.

As the Ground Operations Manual states, the Lead “owns” the flight. This means the Lead must feel confident that the finalized load is accurate. Delta

procedures allow for a 10 bag discrepancy between what is on the aircraft and what is finalized as the load. The FAA has approved this practice, so accuracy has a new meaning for us. The Company is ultimately responsible for the operation but Leads should ensure that they are confident in the accuracy of their finalized loads. If problems arise see the Shop Committee.

Union Picnic –Over 2,000 IAM members, PMDL workers, families and guests came out for the 4th Annual IAM Local 1833 Picnic. The day started out cloudy and chilly, but by late afternoon the sun was out and the kids were heading to the Water Park. The Picnic was also the scene of a 45 mile bike race between ESEs Barry Williamson and Dave Spizman. At stake were bragging rights and \$200. “Lance Armstrong” Spizman beat “Chisel Chest” Williamson. The \$200 was promptly donated to Guide Dogs of America by Spizman. Williamson has challenged Spizman to a rematch.

District 143 Elections – Our Local had an excellent turnout of 920 voters. Our vote was part of a system wide vote, so final results will not be known until July 14. Unofficial results for Local 1833 are available in the Shop Committee Office.

**Late Shift Union Meeting June 24
11:15 PM at the Bloomington Eagles Club**