

RED TALES

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

Family Leave Act – Revisions to FMLA include an important expansion of the Act for employees who have family members called to active duty in the military or National Guard. You get up to 26 weeks of Family Leave in a year if you are the spouse, child, parent or next of kin of a service member who gets injured or has a serious illness in the line of duty. If you are the spouse, parent or child of a member of the National Guard or Reserves who is called to active duty, you get 12 weeks of FMLA for any of the following:

Qualifying events include –

- 1- Short Notice Deployment (7days or less.
- 2- Attend military events, support services.
- 3- Childcare and school activities caused by military leave.
- 4- Financial and legal arrangements caused by military leave.
- 5- Counseling caused by military leave.
- 6- Rest and recuperation (up to 5 days).
- 7- Post deployment activities.
- 8- Other events caused by military leave.

Your employer can require certification of your situation.

- 1- Copy of military orders.
- 2- Statement from employee.

3- 3rd party contact information.

Leave can also be requested to care for a family member who is a covered service member with a serious injury or illness. This includes regular armed forces as well as National Guard.

High Wind Operations – A recent revision (04-01-09) of the NWA Ground Operations Manual (GOM) says that air conditioning and heating hoses should not be used on aircraft in winds 39 miles per hour or higher. Previous to this update, use of these hoses was to be suspended once winds reached 28 miles per hour.

Should a manager require you to use pre conditioned air hoses in winds above 28 miles per hour, please ask him/her to personally show you how this can be done safely. Tell him/her that you will not file a grievance against them for doing your job. You just want to be safe. Never compromise safety.

British Airways – Because of tough economic times, British Airways' CEO recently asked his employees to work some days for free. The unions representing cabin crews and ground crews rejected this proposal. The CEO has accepted his own proposal for free labor and will donate 1 month of his time. Of course, it's a little different for him to go without a paycheck.