

---

**NATCA National Executive Board Teleconference  
January 10, 2008**

---

The teleconference was called to order by President Patrick Forrey and the following individuals were in attendance:

Paul Rinaldi, Executive Vice President;  
Ricky Thompson, Alaskan Regional Vice President;  
Howard Blankenship, Central Regional Vice President;  
Phil Barbarello, Eastern Regional Vice President;  
Mike Robicheau, New England Regional Vice President;  
Scott Farrow, Northwest Mountain Regional Vice President;  
Mike MacDonald, Region X Regional Vice President;  
Victor Santore, Southern Regional Vice President;  
Darrell Meachum, Southwest Regional Vice President;  
Hamid Ghaffari, Western Pacific Regional Vice President.

Also present was Adell Humphreys.

**Staffing Interviews:** Many NATCA officials are being interviewed today regarding ATC staffing, including Pat Forrey, Victor Santore and Mel Davis of SCT. Retirement and attrition numbers continue to come in, and we will use those to our advantage to keep this story alive. The RVPs should expect a lot of local-based media interviews.

**Presidential Endorsement:** Discussion ensued on whether or not NATCA should endorse a Democratic presidential candidate at this time. Mr. Rinaldi noted that NATCA has never endorsed a candidate this early in the election cycle. Mr. Thompson also believes it is too early to endorse a candidate. After discussion, it was agreed not to endorse a candidate at this time.

**Official Time for FacRep:** The Agency refused to grant official time to the ZAN FacRep, who is part of the traffic management bargaining unit. Mr. Thompson has discussed this with Steve Osterdahl to no avail. Mr. Forrey will pursue the matter with Hank Krakowski.

**ATOP Meeting:** Questions have arisen regarding travel costs for NATCA representatives who will be attending the ATOP meeting in late January – is the FAA paying for these expenses, or is NATCA? Mr. Rinaldi stated that if the regional budgets can't absorb this expense, the travel costs will be paid out of the National Office budget.

**PNS Mold Problem:** Mr. Santore explained that there is an extensive mold problem at Pensacola Tower; the tower has leaked for more than two years, and he would like to have WonderMakers do testing of the facility to determine the extent of the program.

Santore: Motion to arrange for WonderMakers to conduct mold testing at Pensacola Tower; funding to come from the Environmental Protection budget.

Barbarello: Seconded

Vote: Passed unanimously

**Meeting with FAA:** Mr. Forrey, Mr. Zilonis, Dale Wright, Vince Polk and Michael Goldfarb recently met with the FAA to follow-up on the progress of action items that had been given to the Agency. Little action has been taken by the Agency regarding NATCA's participation in workgroups, so Mr. Wright will work with Rick Ducharme on a "rules of the road" document regarding NATCA's participation in FAA workgroups. Mr. Forrey insisted that a written document would be necessary in order for NATCA to participate in workgroup discussions, so that the parties could confirm if either side wasn't following through on their commitments. Nancy Kalinowski gave a briefing on the New York airspace realignment plan, stating that the Agency is still unsure as to how to proceed and implementation details have yet to be determined. She indicated that the Agency wanted to include NATCA part of these discussions, and Mr. Forrey agreed to this (he Mr. Barbarello and Mr. Robicheau to contact Ms. Kalinowski to set up this briefing). Concerning the ATSAP program, Joe Miniace discussed the HRP 4.1 and the discipline being levied on performance issues instead of conduct. He asserted this is only a change from the FAPM but, after discussion, he admitted he didn't catch the nuance as to how it impacted performance issues and he believed he could have that language removed. Mr. Zilonis will work with Mr. Miniace to eliminate the performance language. Tony Mello backed off from his last position regarding SMS and stated that NATCA is a stakeholder in the "call to action" on runway safety. Dale Wright will follow up on this to ensure that NATCA is included. Several hardship cases were also discussed.

Mr. Krakowski stated that he wants to continue these discussions on a monthly basis. Mr. Barbarello believes it is perilous to continue to meet with the Agency, as the Agency could later publicly declare that, as a result of these discussions, they're working with NATCA when, in fact, they're only giving lip service to NATCA's concerns and taking no action on our issues.

**Internal Grievance #WP-08-01, Merlin vs. Ghaffari:** The Board dismissed this grievance.