



AUSTRIAN AIRLINES INTRODUCES NEW CAREER MODEL FOR PILOTS

News / Airlines



Consensus reached between the company and Works Council to reform the collective agreement

Career model leads to greater balance within the pilot groups

Collective agreement signed today

A new career model has been introduced for the approx. 1,000 pilots working for Austrian Airlines. The accord was signed today by the company, the Works Council for the flight crew, the trade union and the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber within the context of a reform of the collective agreement. The new collective agreement (“KV”) takes effect retroactively as of August 1, 2016, and mainly regulates part of the career model for the entire cockpit staff which still had to be solved after the last reform carried out in 2014.

“It was our objective to ensure a greater balance and sufficient career prospects within the various staff groups. We were successful in this”, says Austrian Airlines CEO Kay Kratky. “The new agreement will be accompanied by a normalization of training needs. Although the negotiations were tough and although we had to put in several night shifts, the discussions were always held

behind closed doors. I would like to express my thanks to the negotiating team for the successful conclusion of the talks and this new style”, he adds.

The new career model involves the following important changes:

Effective immediately as a result of the new career model, the new Embraer jets will be operated by former Tyrolean Airways pilots. As a consequence, the number of trainings (type rating trainings) can be significantly reduced.

Retention periods of up to 24 months were stipulated in order to more effectively plan trainings in the future.

From a financial perspective, an incentive system will be introduced as of August 1, 2017 for the 27 Austrian Airlines co-pilots who should have been appointed flight captains according to the old career model as well as for the 37 former Tyrolean Airways pilots who can only change to the Embraer jets with a time delay.

The necessity for arbitration procedure has been avoided thanks to the new agreement.

Image result for Austrian Airlines Pilots

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The total of the adjustments allows maintaining the benchmark performance of the overall cost structure within Lufthansa Group. The new career model opens up opportunities on the long-haul fleet for pilots who used to work for Tyrolean Airways. More than 100 long-haul co-pilot positions will be filled by former Tyrolean pilots. At the end of the training period, almost half of all pilots at Austrian Airlines will have taken a step up the career ladder within 24 months. In addition, due to the numerous career opportunities, there will probably be no downgradings from captains to co-pilots on the former Tyrolean Airways side.

As at June 30, 2016, Austrian Airlines employed a total staff of 6,223 people, including 1,000 pilots. 110 new pilots were hired over the last twelve months, with 90 more pilots to be hired in the coming months.

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