



ECA
Piloting Safety

Seamless Membership Memorandum of Cooperation

Between [Association A] and [Association B] in [Country A]

Pilots in European airlines are prone to switch bases across borders during their career. In order to always be represented by the pilot association of the country they are based in, the members of the European Cockpit Association (ECA) have adopted a “seamless membership” scheme.

ECA has a ‘one member per country’ rule in its constitution, while there may be several bodies representing pilots in a given country. To facilitate the application of the seamless membership scheme, those bodies are invited, where possible, to apply this MoU to facilitate cross-border pilot affiliation recognition.

[Association A] which is not a member of the European Cockpit Association, endorses the principles of seamless membership and commits to applying them.

This endorsement has been confirmed and approved by [Association B] which is a member of the European Cockpit Association.

It is also therefore noted that ECA Member Associations in other countries shall apply the seamless membership scheme to pilots coming from [Association A]

As a reminder, the principles of the seamless membership scheme are the following:

- A pilot switching base across borders only needs to contact his/her current association. This association will transfer membership to the new association from the day the pilot switches base. There is no waiting period in the new association and no termination period with the old association. In this case his/her membership with different ECA associations is considered a continuous membership.
- With continuous membership, pilots should be provided with full membership benefits, including the entitlement to legal support, after the qualifying period with the first ECA association he/she joined.
- When a pilot with an ongoing legal case switches association: the association that approved the legal support is responsible for the coverage of that case through to conclusion.

- For an ongoing legal case that is not linked to previous base/membership after switching associations: will be covered by the new association subject to qualifying period as mentioned above.
- For a legal case started after switching association, referring to activities before the switch: the case is covered by the association where membership was held when the reason for the case occurred

At the same time, a European wide legal insurance for pilots of airlines with bases across Europe should be investigated. Either for full coverage or alternatively for the last case.

Signed in

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For [Association A]

For [Association B]