



PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 20 June 2005

**European Pilots Strengthen their EU-Representation
and Elect New Executive Board**

Meeting for an extraordinary General Assembly, in Copenhagen, the European Cockpit Association (ECA), representing 34.000 European pilots, adopted a new structure that will allow for a more proactive and efficient representation of pilots' interests in the EU.

The structure provides for a small **Executive Board of Directors**, with specific competences assigned to each Director. The Executive Board will be able to take decisions more quickly, acting within the strategic guidelines set by a quarterly ECA Conference, involving all ECA Member Associations. The new structure also allows for the integration of further pilot associations from the wider European region that are currently not yet members of ECA.

The **Executive Board** is composed of the following **members**:

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ▪ Capt. Martin CHALK (UK) | President |
| ▪ Capt. Henk DE VRIES (NL) | Vice-President |
| ▪ Capt. Heinz FRÜHWIRTH (AT) | Technical Director |
| ▪ Capt. Thomas MILDENBERGER (DE) | Technical Director |
| ▪ Capt. George KARAMBILAS (LU) | Professional Director |
| ▪ Capt. Kari VOUTILAINEN (FI) | Professional Director |
| ▪ Capt. Odd HAUGSBÄK (NO) | Administration & Finance Director |

ECA President, Capt. Chalk: "European aviation is undergoing deep changes that will profoundly impact our aviation business, crew and passenger safety and the working environment for pilots and other mobile aviation staff. European legislation and regulations will have to play a key role in ensuring that European aviation is competitive and at the same time sustainable in safety, social and environmental terms. ECA will actively contribute to these objectives and ensure that pilots' expertise, concerns and interests are taken into consideration in the EU's legislative process to enhance sustainable growth of our sector."

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The European Cockpit Association

ECA is an association of Flight Crew Unions. Based in Brussels, ECA presently has 22 member associations, representing 34.000 pilots from 22 countries. For more information, please visit <http://www.eurocockpit.be>.