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Issue 104

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The Visit

We had a visit by the VP of Labor Relations the other night. It was informal and I was unable to hang around very long to ask questions but here's what I came away with.

They want to build trust. Yeah right. He admits they have screwed up the merger process and now they want our help to get things in order if you will.

Profit sharing he argued is something the share holders want cut. Now that the company is so profitable they believe the share holders would rather have our money than us. (my opinion)

He argued that the company's offer was a good one. When we argued it wasn't his answer was, "we have to remain competitive," which I then responded that that was a cop out. Delta Airlines gave their employees big raises and a better profit sharing. They are compensated far better than us and yet, Delta Airlines remains more profitable than all the other majors today. Competitive? Try again.

Buyout was brought up after I left. A fellow mechanic told me that he asked him about the buyout and he stated that they are working on something. Something probably similar to what they did with the FA's a couple of years ago.

Company Negotiator Responds

Below is an excerpt of an email from a company negotiator to a mechanic:

Oscar passed on your note to me as I was in negotiations for the Company. First, really glad you responded and yes we're really listening. I was at the negotiations in Florida and I must admit I was hopeful that the company offer would be accepted but that obviously didn't happen and in a BIG way.

Second, we know what the issues are with the Company proposal and we're meeting in DC next week to begin the process of working with the union

to address them. Teamcare has been, by far, the largest negative feedback we've received. While Teamcare is an above average health plan and one I personally wouldn't mind being in, it isn't something the Company ever proposed, it was proposed by the union negotiators. The Company even proposed, towards the end of negotiations, leaving it for a vote by the technicians. The head of benefits negotiations for you rejected our proposal.

I can assure you that the deal on the table was a real attempt by the Company to reach an agreement and was not meant to be disrespectful of the absolutely critical job you and your colleagues do every day.

So this confirms that the company is receiving our emails of discontent. It also confirms that "the head of benefits negotiations," Clacy Griswold, rejected the idea to vote on Teamcare separately from the proposal. I have already confirmed from a negotiator and others from within that the AD forced Teamcare into this proposal.

Now we wait and see what the AD does now. Will Teamcare be removed? I think not. They have already stated it will be pushed again. Reworked and reworded are some of the words used to describe what's coming.

Another Survey

My survey is still going and I need some more participation before I release the results. I'll give it another week and then I should have the numbers to make it legitimate. Please share the link with others. Once done I will send copies to all the decision makers and share with all.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VF7Q7Q7>

SFO Picketing

My hat is off to those at SFO and the other participating stations for their extraordinary show of force to the company and the media. It was truly impressive to say the least. Here is a video of the picketing at SFO and interviews with several mechanics:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BafZnaZLF4o>