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Issue 101

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14 Feb. 2016

Litmus Test

In my thirty years at UAL we have never ratified the first contract proposal. In the minds of our work group you always reject the first offer, always.

This last contract that was brought to us the first time was declared "industry leading" by the Airline Division and recommended a yes vote. They even went as far as guaranteeing the international that it would pass. During the dog and pony shows it morphed from industry leading to a shit sandwich per their own IBT lawyer and this membership.

Now here we are, over three years of negotiations since and still working on "the second bite of the apple." What do they bring us? An insult! Why?

As stated above, SUAL has always rejected the first offer from the company. With a union who makes back door deals and a company that wants to get through the holidays it makes sense to "string us along" past the holidays into the slowest part of the year. Provide us with something to vote on in the meantime and add in a little voting adventure that results in "strings us along" even longer.

Next we reject the proposal and move on. In conversations I have had with others, some think this is also a litmus test to see how badly we reject this proposal. If it's overwhelmingly reject by let's say 80% or more then the negotiators know they have a lot of work ahead of themselves and they need to bring something back to the membership far better than what was last offered.

If its rejected by say 70% or less then they just need to "move the furniture around" to get it to pass.

I think you all get the picture. These are all opinions and nothing more but my feeling is this is a "sacrificial proposal" and perhaps a test to see what steps both sides need to take to provide something that can pass by a majority and nothing more. 50%+1

Three Things

I happened to walk into a briefing by our local rep and negotiator with the day shift people the other day. One of the topics was, the rep wanted to know three things that we didn't like about the proposal. Three things. Three things??? I'm thinking to myself, what a dumb question to ask! Before I could say anything a fellow mechanics stated to the rep, "instead of asking what three things we don't like about the proposal, why don't you ask what three things we do like about the proposal?" Exactly!

This proposal is so bad it needs to be scrapped and to start all over. I'll leave it at that. You can reference the left side of this newsletter on my thoughts about the process.

We're Not Pilots

Below I copied and pasted a comment someone posted on the survey I provided:

I have been told directly by Bob Fisher when asked why we aren't getting full back pack when the Pilots did, and I Quote, "well they're Pilots and you're just mechanics, what do you expect, you guys need to live in the real world."

It's amazing how the mind changes when going from a mechanic on the floor to an appointed position of power. Mr. Fisher's email address is below.

Contacts

Below is contact information to voice your concerns. I was told by our local rep that petitions will have no influence on the AD. They need to get letters from the membership. He also stated that Denver is the only station that is not happy with the union. Yeah. Right.

Mr. Bourne's email address is: Bourne747@aol.com

Mr. Fisher's email address is: rcfisher7@yahoo.com

Hoffa Jr. <https://teamster.org/about/contact-teamsters>

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