

BLUE NOTES

Weekly Newsletter

APRIL 12, 2024 ISSUE 40



The Victories For Union Workers Just Keep Coming

Beginning April 16, IAM-represented Southwest Airlines employees will be the highest-paid in the industry due to a clause in their contract that raises wages automatically when the ramp negotiates higher wages and benefits:

- Customer Service Agents (CSA) at the top of scale will be \$38.35 per hour.
- Customer Representatives (CS&S) at the top of scale will be \$37.85 per hour.

- Source of Support Representatives at the top of scale will be \$41.32 per hour.
- Aonus will be paid on the May 20 paycheck (\$2,000 minimum or \$445 per year of completed service).
- The payout will be based on years of service at the time of the 2022 contract ratification.

Meanwhile Back At Delta... International In ATL Being Contracted Out?

As of this writing we don't have confirmation of this in print, but here's what we know so far:

Several weeks ago, a group of executives from the ramp service subcontracting company, UNIFI, toured the E and F (international gates) ATL concourses. Please keep in mind that Delta is a co-owner of UNIFI. According to Delta, employees who witnessed the tour, the talk was about UNIFI taking over the E and F concourse ramp operations.

Shortly after that UNIFI started holding job fairs for ramp jobs in ATL. The intent was to hire large numbers of workers for ATL.



You can see for yourself what the content of the advertisements for these jobs was: iam4.me/contractedout.

Part of the appeal of applying for a ramp job was flight benefits on Delta Air Lines.

Delta's Approach To Labor Costs

Daily reminder that we MUST be mindful of Delta's approach to labor costs. Our pay raises are in a holding pattern as Delta has chosen to wait for our unionized counterparts to SET the industry standard. Delta's approach is to FOLLOW market conditions, not set them.

Now imagine if our peers at other airlines also chose not to be unionized. What if they weren't putting up a fight for improved compensation through the help of their union?

The fact that we have a PTO app, but are forced to use Facebook groups to give up and swap shifts shows you

's priorities.

Can you imagine if Delta felt even less pressure to increase our compensation package?

In fact, if you really want to know how an infatuation with record profits is pushing corporations, including Delta, here are some headlines from CNBC articles in which it is discussed:

"Companies — profitable or not — make 2024 the year of cost cuts."

"Corporate America has a message for Wall Street: It's serious about cutting costs this year."

Sign your union authorization card! It's time to be part of the force pushing compensation upward!

Glance at the profits we create and you'll see that we deserve it without delay!

New Bid in MKE -It's A Cost Saver

In MKE, management has proposed a bid that cuts the majority of the ramp down to 25 hours a week or fewer.

Frankly, I understand. Even with record profits it's important to tighten our belts. After all, Wall Street and Delta Corporate can never have too much money. I hope the company can use the money they're saving to fix the bathroom that does this once a month.



Volkswagen Workers Vote on Union Next Week

Filing with a super majority of support, workers at the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, Tenn., will be voting on whether to join the UAW next week. Worker leaders in the plant say support runs high. This would be the first auto plant in the South to go union in decades. Meanwhile,

over in Alabama workers at the large Mercedes plant have filed for a union election with broad support. They expect to vote in a few weeks. Finally, aircraft mechanics at Qantas Airlines voted overwhelmingly to join the IAM. Tik Tok - it's union time!

Management Bullying

With a union, management bullying is a no go. There is an entire structure of union leaders, elected by you, that has your back, if an OSM decides to come on a little too strong. It's time for every Delta worker to have that back up.

New OSHA Rule

In response to safety complaints by workers, an OSHA inspector can enter Delta premises to investigate. Rules just recently changed that allow a union representative to accompany the OSHA inspector, if a worker makes that request. This is a big change and one that every Delta worker should be aware of. Make use of it. Just imagine if union safety representatives, elected by you, your coworkers, were on the property every day to hold the company to the highest standards.

CONTACT US

If you would like to start receiving text updates from us, if you need a union card sent to your home, or if you want to share something going on in your station, contact us at

iam4.me/deltastories



