

CAPTAIN MANISH PATEL AIRBUS FLEET

AN APOLOGY FROM UNITE AND BASSA

July 29 2011

During the recent talks with BA it became evident that there had also been areas of concern involving Captain Manish Patel and BASSA over unauthorised postings mainly made on the online forum (provided by BASSA) by some 150 branch members . All of these postings had been made by individuals without the consent or authorisation of Unite (or BASSA) and in an entirely individual capacity.

Nevertheless Unite felt it was only correct to address such postings and to seek to find resolution with Manish Patel. A senior BASSA representative and Captain Patel have since met and it has been explained to BASSA that many of the allegations and rumours surrounding Captain Patel's conduct and actions during the dispute were unfounded, and unsubstantiated. Taking that into consideration although none of the posting were officially sanctioned, BASSA would like to offer Captain Patel and his family a sincere and full apology for everything that was said on the forum.

In the past all have understood that the forum has been a social interaction facility (much like other well known interaction sites) - there has been no need for controls, individuals have been free to express their individual opinions as they choose and all have been aware that the views expressed have no official sanction. BASSA has made a firm commitment to Manish Patel that going forward BASSA will seek to put in place controls on any forums they provide for members in order to ensure to such communications do not appear again. With this in mind the forum has been removed until such time as the controls can be put in place.

Unite sincerely regrets any offence or distress that this may have caused Captain Patel and is pleased to be able to formally post such in order to avoid any damage to Captain Patel's professional reputation.

Unite and BASSA wish to move on from this unhappy episode, and forge a positive working relationship with Captain Patel as part of the bridge-building necessary with the conclusion of the industrial dispute.