

M&E orientation program takes off at 19 stations

Piedmont and USAir maintenance and engineering employees are "Taking Off Together" in a program designed to familiarize department employees with policies, procedures, and various other issues.

An orientation program for this employee group was introduced early last month in Winston-Salem and will have been presented to more than 3,400 maintenance and engineering (M&E) personnel by April 1.

Tom Carleton, operations director-shops (PIT), said that this program was designed to give Piedmont M&E employees "the opportunity to hear first hand about our operational policies, procedures, and benefits, and also to address questions and concerns that they might have." Carleton followed up his remarks with a video presentation, which chronicled the growth of USAir.

Employees have received personal invitations to the sessions from USAir Senior Vice President-Maintenance and Engineering Garner Miller. Also, posters, bearing the theme, "Let's Take Off Together," are displayed at M&E facilities throughout the system.

In addition to the orientation segment, the program format allows employees to "break out" into smaller groups. The five mini-sessions address issues of safety, the USAir credit union, employee relations, M&E administration, and M&E operations.

Each session is facilitated by Piedmont and/or USAir department representatives. The session is supplemented by a maintenance & engineering orientation handbook.

In addition to an orientation of USAir's program of prevention and preparedness, the session on safety also acquaints the participants with USAir's First Responder Program. Employees electing to take the training learn safety procedures that are practical and applicable at home and at work. Topics include fire safety, CPR, and back injury prevention.

The credit union session describes



Ed Jeffreys, USAir management training, and Tom Carleton, operations director-shops, will present the M&E orientation program to more than 3,400 Piedmont and USAir employees by April 1.

the services available including long term disability insurance, which is administered by the USAir Employees Federal Credit Union.

The department heads in the session on maintenance & engineering administration describe their role as liaison between the maintenance & engineering employee group and the corporate departments. Topics covered include policies and procedures for promotions and transfers. The session on operations describes the programs promoting USAir's commitment to aircraft air worthiness.

The session on employee relations covers such topics as the 401K savings plan, health benefits, and the employee assistance program.

"Between February 6 and April 6, we will have presented this program 134 times in 19 different Piedmont cities," said Ed Jeffreys, management training- M&E administration (PIT). The program has already been presented in INT, GSO, CLT, ROA, and UCA, and will have take place in the following cities by April 1: ORF, PHL,

DCA, BWI, LGA, EWR, BOS, DAY, RDU, ATL, TPA, MCO, JAX, and MIA.

"After we have completed the orientation programs, the video material will be edited and incorporated into an orientation program for our training department," Jeffreys said. "A great deal of time, talent, and cooperation have gone into the development and implementation of this program, and we hope that the program will promote a positive integration of two great airlines."

At the conclusion of the mini-sessions, participants return to a closing session during which they are addressed by a video message from USAir Chairman and President Ed Colodny. In it he states: "Over 40,000 USAir and Piedmont employees will soon be taking off together. Counting our families, that means as many as 200,000 people are depending on how well we do. The success of this merger is up to all of us, but I know we can do it. We are already one of the best and can only get better."