



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Monday, November 15, 2010

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RAA SUPPORTS REVISING FAA DUTY AND REST SAFETY REGULATIONS TO AVOID FLIGHT CREW FATIGUE

Based on its primary objective of improving aviation safety, the Regional Airline Association today filed comments supporting FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt's aim to combat crew fatigue, while recommending science-based revisions that will ensure airline flight crews are rested and safe.

RAA representatives and member airlines actively participated in the Flight and Duty Time Limitations and Rest Requirements Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) chartered by the Administrator last summer. RAA earlier had launched its own Strategic Safety Initiative (SSI) which specifically called for a study of pilot commuting and research on identifying pilot fatigue in airline operations. Many of the elements in the SSI have been incorporated into the FAA proposed rulemaking.

"Fatigue avoidance is a joint responsibility of airline management and individual pilots, and we applaud FAA's efforts to revise the current outdated rules and push the development of new rules based on new research into fatigue and today's real-world airline environment," underlined RAA President Roger Cohen. "The RAA sponsored, independent Fatigue Study, currently underway by Washington State University's world-renowned Sleep and Performance Research Center, should provide ground-breaking science focused on multi-segment airline operations."

Cohen continued: "The regional airline industry is dedicated in its commitment to ensure safe operations recognizing that half of the nation's flights and 75 percent of US communities depend exclusively on regional airlines for their only scheduled service."

Click [here](#) to read the entire document filed today with FAA.

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With safety as its highest priority, RAA represents North American regional airlines, and the manufacturers of products and services supporting the regional airline industry, before the Congress, DOT, FAA and other federal agencies.

With more than 13,000 regional airline flights every day, regional airlines operate 53 percent of the nation's commercial schedule. Some 160 million passengers annually -- more than one of every five domestic airline passengers -- travel on regionals, and the more than 2,700 regional aircraft comprise about nearly 40 percent of the US commercial passenger fleet. Most notably, regional airlines serve 631 communities across the country and in 492 of those communities -- 75 percent of the US -- regional airlines provide the only scheduled service.

Founded in 1975, Washington, DC-based RAA also provides a wide array of technical, government relations and public relations services for regional airlines. The association's 31 member airlines and 230 associate members represent the key decision makers of this vital sector of the commercial aviation industry.

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