



# TEAMSTER AVIATION PROFESSIONAL

Newsletter of the Teamsters Aviation Mechanics Coalition

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## Thank You AMTS!

*As we begin to turn the corner on the pandemic in much of the world, passengers are returning to the skies. Although the airlines are only flying around 65 percent of what they did in 2019, it is great to see the uptick in flying. Throughout all of this you have been on the front lines. As essential workers you could not shelter in place. Instead, you put yourselves and your families at risk by continuing to come to work. Many of you took the bold step of retiring early or voluntarily separating from you jobs so that younger AMTs could stay employed, a selfless act that shows the integrity that is ingrained our craft. It is through your hard work and sacrifice that the fleet is ready to fly as demand returns.*

*On May 24, AMTs throughout the country honored Charles Taylor day to commemorate the 153rd anniversary of the world's first and finest aviation technician. Charles Taylor embodied all the traits you have exhibited throughout this unprecedented global crisis. His dedication, hard work and ingenuity set the standard for all that hold the certificate which bears his photo, and his spirit lives on in all of us.*

*With Solidarity,  
The TAMC Board of Directors*



## A Brighter Outlook for 2021

**W**ith the number of new COVID-19 cases going down and the number of vaccinations going up, passengers are returning to the skies. Since the beginning of 2021, the TSA screening numbers have steadily increased and on June 11 and 13 they surpassed two million for the first time since 2019. That represents a 75

percent increase over the same dates in 2020.

The industry is not out of the woods yet. International and business travel are still down, with most airlines predicting at least another year or two for those sectors to recover. Regardless, the major airlines are predicting that they will hit the breakeven mark sometime in the third or fourth quarter of 2021. That is great news for workers at those airlines. It means that the millions of dollars per day that the airlines have been burning through will slow to a trickle or stop completely.

It should also be noted that without the airlines and the aircraft unions working together, the quick rebound would not have been possible. Through early retirements and reduced schedules, employees were responsible for reducing payroll expenses. Those sacrifices coupled with the unions and companies signing support letters for the Federal Payroll Support Programs, resulted in no major airline having to file for bankruptcy and all of them having enough employees available to resume operations at a steady pace.

The next phase of the rebound will require the hiring more mechanics and pilots due to accelerated retirement programs that have exacerbated the pre-COVID-19 labor shortage. With most furloughed pilots and mechanics expected to be recalled by the end of the year and passenger numbers growing, airlines are again talking about having to hire. That brings the industry back to where it was before the pandemic regarding labor and the looming mechanic shortage.

Throughout the pandemic, the TAMC and the Teamsters have not lost focus on the need for more licensed AMTs. We recently signed an exclusive agreement with Spartan College of Aeronautics, which will give Teamster members and their families access to quality aviation programs for A&P certificates, as well as a bachelor's degree.

## Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology and The International Brotherhood of Teamsters Form Historic Partnership

*The partnership opens scholarship opportunities to Teamsters members and their families*

Officials from Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters recently announced that they are forming an exclusive educational partnership between the two organizations. Spartan College and the Teamsters Union will host an official signing in the near future.

For more than a century, the Teamsters Union has been serving as a public voice for the rights of working men and women. With 1.4 million members located in the United States and Canada, Teamsters serve as the backbone of growth for leading industries such as aviation, freight, and transportation. More specifically, its Airline Division has over 90,000 members across trades such as aircraft maintenance, piloting, customer service and more.

Established in 1928, Spartan College has trained over 100,000 pilots and aviation technicians and currently offers diploma and associate degree programs in Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT), Aviation Electronics Technology, Nondestructive Testing Technology/Quality Control Management and Aviation Flight. Additionally, Spartan College has developed a hybrid AMT option that maximizes student flexibility while minimizing time away from home, along with an online Bachelor of Science degree program in Technology Management.

To serve the educational goals of Teamsters and their families, Spartan College offers special scholarship opportunities to those who qualify at all four of their campus locations – Tulsa, Oklahoma, Broomfield, Colorado, Riverside and Inglewood, California. Through this partnership, the Teamsters Union and Spartan College are committed to co-developing custom training to ensure their students are at the forefront of emerging aviation industry needs.

“We feel this partnership is a perfect alliance,” said Capt. David Bourne, Director of the Teamsters Airline Division. “Spartan College is a well-recognized educational institution in the field of aviation that continues to invest in their student experience and innovative programs. We are excited to be able to offer incredible educational opportunities to Teamsters and their families to support their careers today and into the future.

“We are thrilled to be a part of this monumental partnership,” said Rob Polston, Chief Executive Officer at Spartan College. “We know this exclusive partnership will allow us to match our expertise of delivering career-oriented aviation training to the Teamsters Union who for decades has set the standards for labor benefits that have positively impacted our economy. Furthermore, we are excited to co-develop training products that anticipate the future needs of the aviation industry. Both Spartan College and the Teamsters Union will benefit greatly from this partnership.”

To learn more, go to <https://www.spartan.edu/teamsters-scholarships/>.



**EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS**

FOR TEAMSTERS MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

### Change Your Perspective and Train for a Career in Aviation

Spartan College is partnering with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters because excellence recognizes excellence. The global pandemic has been hard on many industries. Within the aviation space, there's a predicted shortage of qualified pilots and technicians.<sup>1</sup> Find out how you or your family members can complete career-focused aviation training in months, not years. Ask about our on-ground, online, and hybrid<sup>2</sup> options.

AVIATION ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY | AVIATION FLIGHT | AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY  
NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING TECHNOLOGY | BACHELORS OF SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

Student services assist with campus life and academic support

Career placement assistance

Career focused training and courses

Campus housing options

Simulated work environments in the hangar and on the runway

Hands on practice and skill building

Financial Aid and Scholarships for those who qualify

FAA approved Part 141 and 142 School

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<sup>1</sup>Source: Boeing Pilot and Technician Outlook 2020-2039. Tulsa Campus is licensed by the D.B.P.V.S. Accredited college, ACCSC. Find out more consumer information at [www.spartan.edu](http://www.spartan.edu). <sup>2</sup>Before enrolling, ensure that you're in a state eligible for our online options. Distance Education State Authorization List: <https://www.spartan.edu/tulsa/distance-education-state-authorization-list/>

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## TAMC Appears on Flight Safety Detectives Podcast



In honor of National Aircraft Maintenance Technician Day, Bob Fisher and Chris Moore, International Representatives for the Teamsters Airline Division and TAMC Board Members, sat down with John Goglia and Greg Feith for an episode of the podcast Flight Safety Detectives. The discussion included Charles Taylor’s history and contributions to aviation maintenance, safety and integrity. We also talked about the looming mechanic shortage, the future of the craft and how to make an aviation maintenance career available to those in our underserved communities and separating veterans.

Ken Mactiernan, Director at the Aircraft Maintenance Technicians Association and David Supplee, President and Directing General Chair at Air Transport District 142, IAMAW also made an appearance. You can hear the podcast at this link: <https://flightsafetydetectives.com/tribute-to-charles-taylor-the-father-of-aircraft-maintenance-episode-71/>

### Teamsters Applaud Passage of PARTT 147

The most recent Boeing Pilot & Technician Outlook Report projections for 2019-2038 show an ever-increasing demand for our skills. The number of technicians needed worldwide over the next twenty years has increased by 15,000 – 82 percent of those will be in commercial aviation, and 4,000 of those jobs will be in North America.

Meeting this strong demand will require a collective effort from across the global aviation industry,” the Boeing report said. “As several hundred thousand pilots and technicians reach retirement age over the next decade, educational outreach and career pathway programs will be essential to inspiring and recruiting the next generation of personnel.”

In addition to the report from Boeing, the Aviation Technical Education Council (ATEC) recently issued its 2018 Pipeline Report, showing that 70 percent of overall (A&P) mechanics take the exam shortly after graduating, a ten percent increase in the past two years. It also shows that the number of graduates taking jobs outside the industry has dropped significantly from 25 percent to 15 percent. Unfortunately, the schools are only at half capacity, and with fleet expansions and mechanic retirements, we are still behind the power curve.



### Teamsters Local 402 Ratifies Contract with Amentum-Dyncorp

Airline mechanics represented by Teamsters Local 402 have unanimously ratified their latest collective bargaining agreement with Amentum-Dyncorp International. The workers are responsible for providing maintenance and repairs to military aircraft at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama.

“These workers stuck together and worked hard during negotiations and it paid off in a big way,” said Joe Gronek, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 402. “This is a great example of how workers employed by defense contractors can get better wages and benefits by forming their union with the Teamsters.”

The contract includes a number of significant improvements, including an increase in paid days off, wage increases of over 20 percent over the lifetime of the agreement, increased health care benefits and company matching for 401(k) retirement benefits. The agreement will be in effect for the next four years.

## TEAMSTERS PROVIDE FIRST EVER VIRTUAL NTSB CRASH INVESTIGATION TRAINING FOR MEMBERS

The Teamsters Airline Division, IBT Safety and Health Department and the TAMC provided the first ever Virtual NTSB Go Team Crash Investigation Training for a diverse group of Teamsters Airline Division members. Mechanics, pilots, flight attendants and maintenance controllers were represented. The class was taught by the Honorable John Goglia, a two-term NTSB member and industry safety expert. Bloodborne pathogen training was provided by Richard Lindsay from the Teamsters Safety and Health Department. We were also fortunate to have Mitch Hunt of Local 455, a recent Go Team Party Coordinator on hand to

walk the class through his experience working an NTSB investigation.

Normally this class is presented in person, but there was an immediate need to get our ranks replenished due to the number of recent pandemic-related retirements and leaves. Teamsters Safety and Health Dept. Staff Members Enjoli DeGrasse, Chee Chang, Richard Lindsay and Chris Coppola along with Airline Division Deputy Director Allynn Allen and Safety Coordinator Chris Moore were able to produce a virtual training experience which was every bit as effective as a normal face-to-face training.

Members of Locals 19, 135, 455, 856, 986, 2118 and 2727 learned the skills

needed to participate in an NTSB aircraft crash investigation as representatives of the Airline Division. Along with learning their protocols and responsibilities, attendees also received bloodborne pathogen training to ensure that they have the knowledge to remain safe during an investigation.

“This type of training is essential in the representation of our members should one of our Carriers experience an accident, and while we hope to never use this training we must always be prepared,” said Captain David Bourne, Airline Division Director. “I’m proud of these dedicated Teamsters who are willing to go the extra mile to continue to improve airline safety.”

### TAMC ONLINE

Check out previous issues of the *Teamster Aviation Professional* at [www.teamsterair.org/tamc/newsletter](http://www.teamsterair.org/tamc/newsletter).

You can also find us at [aviationmechanics.org](http://aviationmechanics.org) and <https://www.facebook.com/theaviationmechanicscoalition>.

To receive the newsletter via email, sign up at <http://ibt.io/tamc-nl>.

