2020-02

Diligence through Rough Times

In these uncertain times, we have many outside stressors that threaten to compromise our flight deck performance. It has been proven that distracting discussions about the latest breaking news, contract talk, furloughs, and bankruptcies can lead to unsafe airplane states and or loss of situational awareness. Pilots must mitigate this risk of distractions when flying on a daily basis, but with the continuous barrage of threatening news to our health and financial situations, it becomes even more important to be on the lookout for the precursors to a reduced level of safety.

While crewmembers need to communicate with each other, and check on the well-being of fellow pilots, many of those conversations are best saved for when you are away from the airplane to preserve the appropriate cockpit environment throughout the flight.

Pilots are reminded to stay vigilant, follow your standard operating procedures and always remain focused on the task at hand. The safety of our operations is still the number one priority through this rapidly changing environment, and there are many resources available for assistance. As a reminder, for any member who needs help coping with the stresses of life—whether related to work or personal life—ALPA has dedicated resources available to help you and your loved ones (link to http://www.alpa.org/committees/family-issues).

Please contact the ALPA Engineering and Air Safety Department with any questions at eas@alpa.org or 1-800-424-2470.

If you are involved in an aircraft accident, serious incident, or time-critical safety/security event, immediately call the hotline for assistance at 202-797-4180 or 703-892-4180.

Captain Steve Jangelis Aviation Safety Chairman

Air Line Pilots Association, Int'l