

MACCARES BULLETIN

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MACCARES bulletin is published by the Accident Prevention and Investigation Group (APIG) by using the de-identified information collected from MACCARES. It serves as a platform for sharing aviation safety information in the community.

Here we share some of the reports extracted from MACCARES database:

1. *Shortage of manpower and human resources for cabin crews*

The reporter pointed out during the wet-lease arrangement to mainland China, they experienced human resources issues for cabin crews. The reporter expressed safety concerns on more procedures required by Health Bureau generated more workload with same number of cabin crews assigned for each flight. Due to shortage of manpower for cabin crews after wet leasing aircraft to mainland China, cabin crews' 12-hours rest time limited was being used frequently for local flight operations.

The reporter suggested the company should ensure there are enough human resource to operate local flight before considering wet lease aircrafts and optimize the rostering to prevent the 12-hour rest limitation being used too frequently in order to provide enough rest time for the crews in order to enhance flight safety.

Flight time and duty time of flight crew is governed by Aeronautical Circular AC/OPS/013R00 *Avoidance of Fatigue in Aircrew* and cabin crews is included in the FTL Scheme.

Safety concerns raised by this report were followed up by the related AACM department. During AOC audit, flight time limitations including the day-offs entitlement and flight duty period, rest period were reviewed with no violation of the FTLS requirements found. There may be some constraints on crew management during the initial one to two months of the wet lease operations, the situation was under control since then.



2. *Non-authorized personnel accessed to the flight deck during flight*

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The reporter raised a safety concern regarding non-authorized personnel entering the flight deck during flight with attachment of a photo from social media shown non-authorized personnel had accessed to the flight deck while the aircraft was in operation.

The reporter pointed out that was a serious safety issue and suggested to take appropriate action to prevent such circumstance happen again.

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Non-authorized personnel in the flight deck during aircraft operation could interfere with the flight crews and also the instruments could easily be touched due to limited area of the flight deck resulting in serious consequence.

AACM had sent letter to the operator urging them to look into this matter and take adequate measures to enforce the flight deck safety and security stated in their operations manuals and security manuals. After reviewing the case, the operator reported to AACM that this was an repetitive report and being handled last time already.

3. *Restricting pilot's use of drugs and alcohol before flight*

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The reporter expressed concern about pilot's compliance with operations manuals on restricting the use of drugs and alcohol before flight.

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In operator's operations manuals, there are rules restricting flight crews from taking drugs and alcohol before flight as alcohol and some drugs may compromise a pilot's ability to control the aircraft and / or adversely affect judgement and decision making. AACM is working with the concerned operator to strengthen supervision on these rules.

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