



August 5, 2024

Mr. Guillaume Faury
CEO, Airbus SE
1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte
31707 Blagnac Cedex, France

Re: Vulnerability of technology vs. Pilots' crucial safety role

Dear Mr. Faury,

The recent CrowdStrike technology meltdown wreaked havoc across the aviation industry, leading to hundreds of canceled flights and leaving thousands of passengers and crewmembers stranded. This fiasco caused immense hardship, inconvenience, and financial losses. Fortunately, the safety and security of aircraft operations were not impacted, but the lesson here is the certain fallibility of technology and the necessity to consider technology as an assist to human professionals and monitored airline operations rather than replacement.

In a safety critical industry where passengers expect safety to always come first, we respectfully request that you reconsider your current strategy around single pilot operations – eMCO – and pursue a strategy that combines the best technology that we have with the resilience and security of two pilots in the flight deck. This is how we have created the safety record that we have today.

Despite advances in technology, operational systems—especially in aviation—must have redundancies. The most critical safety feature on every flight remains two well-trained and rested pilots on the flight deck during all phases of the flight. Technological advancements can and have enhanced aviation safety, but in order to maintain and enhance our current level of safety, technology alone will never replace the indispensable role of two pilots in the flight deck.

As we discussed in our meeting last year, professional pilots and aircraft manufacturers have a shared duty to protect our passengers and crew members. The signatory pilot organizations of this letter will not relent on that duty, nor hesitate to demonstrate leadership in achieving it.

Respectfully,

Jason Ambrosi
President
Air Line Pilots Association, Int'l

Otjan de Bruijn
President
European Cockpit Association

Amornvaj Mansumitchai
President
International Federation of Air Line
Pilots' Associations

