

From: Mike Mellors [michaelmellors@ifalpa.org]
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To: Mike Mellors
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AF-KLM, Aeroflot among four known to be interested in CSA



The bidding process for Czech Airlines (CSA) was due to close last night. Among the known interested parties are Air France–KLM and Aeroflot. Two other groups believed to be involved are a Czech consortium and a private equity fund. The Czech government is known to be keen on divesting its 91.5 per cent stake in CSA. Aeroflot has reaffirmed its intention of going into partnership with a Czech owned company as it cannot own more than a 49 per cent stake, the Russian carrier being outside the EU.

Alaskan suspends flights due to Mt Redoubt eruption

Alaskan Airlines has had to suspend flights to and from Fairbanks, Bethel, Prudhoe Bay, Nome, Kotzebue and Barrow due to volcanic ash caused by the eruption of Mt. Redoubt. The airline has issued a statement saying that it is “closely monitoring the weather and ash from Mt. Redoubt to assess our ability to safely operate flights in and out of Alaska and we will adjust flights as conditions change”.



ICAO releases safety/security statistics for last year

ICAO has released its figures for 2008 concerning the number of accidents among its 190 member states. There were 11 accidents involving passenger fatalities on scheduled services by aircraft “with a maximum take-off mass of more than 2250 kg, usually seven passengers or more”. The total number of fatalities amounted to 439, the previous year there were 587 fatalities in the same number of accidents. In non-scheduled services there were 12 accidents involving 80 losses of life, slightly down on the 86

of 2007.

There were 24 acts of unlawful interference recorded last year claiming 11 lives. The previous year there were 22 acts in which 18 lives were lost.

Piece of Aviation History for March 24



1971 - The United States Government cancels funding for the Boeing Supersonic Transport Aircraft and the programme is officially terminated in May. A mock-up of the variable-geometry aircraft had been built which was 306 feet long (91.8 m.) and displayed both P & W JTF17A and GE GE4/J5 engine pods. The variable sweep wings on the mock-up could be moved manually from fully aft, with a 72° leading edge sweep, to fully extended, with a 30° sweep. A modification brought the forward sweep forward to 20° for better take-off and landing performance.

Quote of the Day

Anger repressed can poison a relationship as surely as the cruellest words. Dr. Joyce Brothers (1928 -)

A Bit of Light Relief

Old Sam Johnson goes to his doctor complaining of aches and pains all over his body. After a thorough examination, the doctor gives him a clean bill of health.

"Sam, you're in excellent shape for an 85 year old man. But I'm not a magician - I can't make you any younger," says the doctor.

"Who asked you to make me younger?" says Sam. "You just make sure I get older!"