ASBAA CELEBRATES WEEK OF WINS FOR BUSINESS AVIATION IN ASIA

News / Business aviation, Events / Festivals

AsBAA, the Asian region's non-for-profit representative body for business aviation has announced a week of wins for the industry amid its activities in region and globally. These include successful talks with HKIA to expand maintenance capabilities for MRO's in Hong Kong at remote stands, the hosting of the China Regional Chapter leading to improvements in China, and successful representation of the industry with CAAC at the US – China aviation summit held in Washington DC.

In Hong Kong, complaints about inefficient systems and the challenging sharing of over-burdened infrastructure and resources have plagued the industry for some time. Behind the scenes, AsBAA has set up a series of working groups with the authorities to ensure the voice of the industry is heard, and that collaborative approaches to solutions are sought. Now making some headway, these talks led to an industry win this week whereby talks held with HKIA have resulted in an agreement to add certain line maintenance tasks for MROs in Hong Kong. Following the meeting

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with HKIA, AsBAA is pleased to announce it has been able to secure approval for a number of remote stand maintenance items, and a new working group to be set up in order to work on obtaining further approvals and seek further improvement. AsBAA Board of Governor, Mike Walsh said, “Although we’re clearly still in a situation of crisis in Hong Kong business aviation in many respects, it’s enormously encouraging to see that AsBAA has a seat at the table when key decisions about use of resources are being made. We are able to speak on behalf our industry, and also highlight its economic and job creation benefits and drive our agenda for the greater good.”

The approvals granted so far include: cleaning and bright work polishing carried out on aircraft parked at remote stands, Preflight/Postflight, Pitot/Static tests, External lamp replacement, Minor panel/door replacement (for service panels only), Antenna replacement, Emergency exit replacement, Exterior cleaning (wipe down and dry wash only), Bright work on leading edges and engines, APU operation, Engine adjustment with cowls open – if engine NOT running or at bay X458/9, Maintenance inspection or functional checks that can be performed without jacking shoring and large panel removal other than quick access panels, Any internal tasks.

This week AsBAA also hosted its China Regional Chapter meeting at Embraer’s office in CBD area of Beijing. Over 25 members were in attendance which consisted of OEM’s, aircraft & helicopter operators, trip support companies, MRO’s & industry media from across China. Rocky Zhang China Government Affairs for Textron Aviation was announced as the newest addition to AsBAA’s leadership team as the new China Committee Vice Chairman replacing Ty Dubay of Netjets who returns to the US this month. Action items from the meeting included: compact parking at Beijing Airport, duty tariffs on spare parts and cross border movements for foreign tailed aircraft as well as discussing which events and shows to support and participate in. It was also agreed to move to monthly meetings and all Mainland Committee meetings in future will be conducted in Chinese. The members agreed a further effort in recruitment of more operators and service providers was of importance to come together as one group under AsBAA and encourage a shared community for policy makers.

Mike Walsh also visited Beijing Capital Jet co FBO and met the Deputy General JIN Yongfa (???) to update him on AsBAA’s efforts. Mr. Jin was supportive of reviewing and possibly implementing a compact parking system that could increase the number of parking spaces for business jets (which is currently limited to 50 in a 24 hour period). AsBAA members and relations with fellow IBAC member associations can provide them with case studies and sample systems that work well already in the region and overseas. He welcomed this kind offer as a win-win for the industry if the Airport Authority was to come on-board with this as well. Mike also visited Tongda Air Service and met with Director of Flight Operations, Jane Geng, the official collection agency for the CAAC for all air navigation and compensation fee charges for Chinese civilian airspace. They are also supportive of the compact parking initiative by AsBAA as a shareholder of Capital Jet FBO and welcomed our PRD vision for #BizAv. They are willing to consider AsBAA proposals for the betterment and future growth of our industry in this important and economic development area.

Finally this week, Charlie Mularski, Chairman of AsBAA joined a Chinese delegation from CAAC at the 2 day US.-China Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP) Summit held in Washington DC. Charlie represented AsBAA on the Business Aviation panel which discussed a wide variety of topics to help educate the relevant Govt depts in attempt to expedite and realise opportunities for new grow areas for the aviation industry in China.

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