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**ALLIED PILOTS ASSOCIATION INVITES AMERICAN AIRLINES
MANAGEMENT TO JOIN IN REQUEST FOR FEDERAL MEDIATION**

“It is in the best interests of all concerned to bring our contract negotiations to a prompt conclusion”

Fort Worth, Texas (January 10, 2008)—The Allied Pilots Association, collective bargaining agent for the 12,000 pilots of American Airlines (NYSE: AMR), appealed to the carrier’s management today to join in a request for National Mediation Board (NMB) involvement in the ongoing negotiations for a new pilots’ contract.

APA and American Airlines management began negotiations for a new contract in September 2006 after management triggered an “early-opener” provision in the pilots’ contract. This provision gives either party the option to initiate bargaining up to 18 months before the contract’s May 1, 2008 amendable date. Under the Railway Labor Act—which governs all airline industry labor negotiations—contracts become amendable on an agreed-upon date, rather than expiring.

“It is in the best interests of all concerned—including our pilots, the passengers we serve and our shareholders—to bring our contract negotiations to a prompt conclusion,” said APA President Captain Lloyd Hill. “We are hopeful that federal mediation will provide the necessary impetus to get a deal done quickly.”

Hill noted that APA presented American Airlines management with a comprehensive set of contractual proposals late last year. According to Hill, management then requested a recess in the negotiations of several weeks to study APA’s proposals and later responded by largely restating their previous positions.

“Without question, we have made little progress in our negotiations, which is why we believe federal mediation is warranted,” Hill said.

He indicated that APA would wait until close of business on Monday, January 14 for management's response to the union's invitation before contacting the NMB.

Founded in 1963, the Allied Pilots Association—the largest independent pilot union in the U.S.—is headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas. APA represents the 12,000 pilots of American Airlines, including 2,287 pilots on furlough. The furloughs began shortly after the September 11, 2001 attacks. Also, several hundred American Airlines pilots are on full-time military leave of absence serving in the armed forces. The union's Web site address is www.alliedpilots.org.

American Airlines is the nation's largest passenger carrier and fifth-largest cargo carrier.

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