

PCN Services – High Life Newsletter, News, Events, Deaths, Illness Notices & PCN Ads & Calendar. Note: Notices from major sections are distributed by separate email address to allow our subscribers the ability to customize and filter notices not desired.

Large web community for one of world's largest airlines

High Life

facebook

For all Delta people who have truly touched the *High Life*

Beautiful Lake Tahoe!

Pilot Communication Net - Group Section.....

Dear PCN (of over 2500 subscribers),

Mark's Remarks

Good NFL playoffs --- hope the Superbowl is as good!

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Soon new page for those who have "Flown West:"

We are finalizing a site where notices for our fellow pilots and friends who have passed will be posted. Many new advantages will be available and an official rollout will occur soon. You can bookmark it if you would like as it will soon be our main page for death notices: <http://pcnflightwest.blogspot.com/>

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OKAY, Last time I will run this. **Jan 31, 2012 Deadline!** Please read Rick Bauer's advice in Misc posts below. YES, I am running this again! Repeat Request Because **IT'S IMPORTANT!!!!**

PLEASE! PLEASE!
Take this Action Step and “CERTIFY”
your dependents and Buddy Pass Policy with DAL.

If this is not done by 11:59PM on Jan 31, 2012, then on March 1, 2012 your dependents will drop off the eligibility list **forever** and you may not be able to issue any buddy passes.

Please spread this word to other Deltoids who may not be connected via our network.

If you have your DalNet login handy then click on this link and you should go directly to the main page of the DalNet with the **CERTIFY** button in the right column to get'er dun.

<http://dlnet.delta.com/> or

Family Status Change Forms and supporting documentation forms are located on Employee Connection on DeltaNet [DeltaNet Employee Connection Employee Life Events Checklists and Forms (right nav bar)] and on the Dependent Information page (home page) of the Dependent Certification portal under Helpful Links.

Send the Family Status Change Form and all required supporting documentation, if applicable:

- Via US mail to: Delta **Employee Service Center - Dependent Certification: PO Box 52045: Phoenix, AZ 85072**
- Via FAX number to: 602-797-6261

Questions? If you have questions about the CERTIFY process, the status of your dependents or what to do about Non-Certified status, call the **1-800 MY DELTA** (1-800-693-3582) and select the data verification prompt, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET, except certain holidays.

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Tools for our members:

PCN Main Website: <http://pcn.homestead.com/home01.html>

PCN Google Group archives: <http://groups.google.com/group/PilotCommunicationNet>

PCN Ads—<http://pilotcommunication.net/Ads/> *Updates temporarily suspended*

PCN Tool Bar (for IE browser) - <http://pcntools.ourtoolbar.com/>

PCN Calendar - <http://pcn.homestead.com/Calendar.html>

PCN specific emails: misc@pilotcommunication.net

pcn.calendar@gmail.com

signup@pilotcommunication.net

illness@pilotcommunication.net

death@pilotcommunication.net

ads@pilotcommunication.net

mark@pilotcommunication.net

News Section.....

1/20/2012 @ 11:25AM

Forbes Earnings Preview: Delta Air Lines

By [Narrative Science](#)

Wall Street is high on [Delta Air Lines \(DAL\)](#), expecting it to report earnings that are up 84.2% from a year ago when it reports its fourth quarter earnings on Wednesday, January 25, 2012. The consensus estimate is 35 cents per share, up from earnings of 19 cents per share a year ago.

What to Expect:

The consensus estimate hasn't changed over the past month, but it's up from three months ago when it was 13 cents. Analysts are expecting earnings of \$1.33 per share for the fiscal year.

Revenue is expected to be \$8.31 billion for the quarter, 6.7% higher than the year-earlier total of \$7.79 billion. For the year, revenue is projected to come in at \$35.03 billion.

Trends to Watch For:

Analyst Ratings:

The majority of analysts (92.3%) rate Delta as a buy. This compares favorably to the analyst ratings of its nearest 10 competitors, which average 58.4% buys.

Read more: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/narrativescience/2012/01/20/forbes-earnings-preview-delta-air-lines/?partner=yahootix>

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Checking the Quality of Delta's Growth

<http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2012/01/19/checking-the-quality-of-deltas-growth.aspx>

Rex Moore

January 19, 2012

Delta Air Lines (NYSE: [DAL](#)) carries \$15 billion of goodwill and other intangibles on its balance sheet. Sometimes goodwill, especially when it's excessive, can foreshadow problems down the road. Could this be the case with Delta?

Before we answer that, let's look at what could go wrong.

AOL blows up

In early 2002, AOL Time Warner was trading for \$66.27 per share.

It had \$209 billion of assets on its balance sheet, and \$128 billion of that was in the form of goodwill and other intangible assets. Goodwill is simply the difference between the price paid for a company during an acquisition and the net assets of the acquired company. The \$128 billion of goodwill in this case was created when AOL and Time Warner merged in 2000.

The problem with inflating your net assets with goodwill is that it can -- being intangible after all -- go away if the acquisition or merger doesn't create the amount of value that was expected. That's what happened in AOL Time Warner's case. It had to write off most of the goodwill over the next few months, and one year later that line item had shrunk to \$37 billion. Investors punished the stock along the way, sending it down to \$27.04 -- or nearly a 60% loss.

Read more: <http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2012/01/19/checking-the-quality-of-deltas-growth.aspx>

Other Airline News (Recent stories of interest): [Yahoo](#), [AJC](#)

AMR Risks Losing Control of Bankruptcy Exit

By Mary Schlangenhein and David McLaughlin - Jan 19, 2012

American Airlines parent AMR Corp. risks losing control of its ability to exit bankruptcy as an independent carrier after three possible suitors emerged within two months of its Chapter 11 filing.

The outside interest means AMR may need to move sooner than planned on steps such as reworking labor contracts to cut costs, said [Hunter Keay](#), a Wolfe Trahan & Co. analyst. The third-largest U.S. airline must craft a restructuring plan that can win over creditors who may receive alternative offers, he said.

"This could expedite some of the more difficult decisions," Keay said in an interview from New York. "AMR is going to have to prove to its creditors that its stand-alone exit plan adds more value than a bid by a competitor, and that is likely to be difficult."

[Delta Air Lines Inc. \(DAL\)](#), [US Airways Group Inc. \(LCC\)](#) and TPG Capital are assessing possible bids for [Fort Worth](#), Texas-based AMR, people familiar with the matter have said. They're circling an airline that has moved at a slower tempo since its Nov. 29 Chapter 11 filing than rivals did when they were in bankruptcy.

Read more: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-01-19/amr-risks-losing-control-of-bankruptcy-exit-as-suitors-circle.html?cmpid=yahoo>

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US Airways Considers Bid for Bankrupt AMR Corp.

Wall St. Cheat Sheet – Fri, Jan 20, 2012 3:58 PM EST

US Airways is considering a [merger](#) with bankrupt AMR Corp. , which has been forced to pare its American Airlines flight network to the point that the carrier is unable to support most of its hub airports.

Hot Feature: [Cracks in Airbus May Lead to Safety Checks](#)

Combining American, the nation's third-largest airline, with No. 5 US Airways could solve its deficiency, but any bid may still be close to a year away, as AMR now holds the exclusive right to file a reorganization plan, two people familiar with the matter said. US Airways has not yet discussed its interest with AMR executives.

Still, US Airways President Scott Kirby is leading an analysis of how to combine the two airlines, and a merger attempt is likely, the people said. The plan could take shape as American resolves issues such as pensions and new labor contracts in court, one person said.

Read more: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/US-Airways-Considers-Bid-wscheats-684904921.html?x=0>

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Why Airline Stocks Won't Fly: Part 2

by: Colin Lea January 20, 2012

Back in September 2011, I was so jaded with U.S. airlines after yet another atrocious traveling experience that [I wrote an article](#) on the plight and pitfalls of airline stocks as investments. It attracted a few interesting comments, least of all that I knew nothing about airlines and to come back in two months and see that what I wrote wasn't worth the paper (or electrons) they were written on. I did post a brief update, including a piece on what I predicted (correctly) was a dead cat bounce with American Airlines ([AAMRQ.PK](#)), yet was still "advised" of how little I knew, and that US Airways ([LCC](#)) would be the big winner from AMR's demise (time is yet to prove that chestnut of free advice).

To recollect, the stocks discussed were as follows:

Read more: <http://seekingalpha.com/article/320925-why-airline-stocks-won-t-fly-part-2?source=yahoo>

Finance Section ((Claims, PBGC, HCTC, Insurance, Planning, Tax, Estate) - section containing items with financial consequence to our group)):

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Remaining financial items for retirees to watch:

After Aug 2007 these are retirement items remaining with financial consequence.

1. PBGC 2nd look re-calc at qualified annuity benefits - **completed 8/24/07**
2. PBGC make up lump payment for underpayments since termination: **most reported received 1/31/08**
3. ~~Final claim distribution by DAL through BSI~~ – **distributed at or around Mar 23, 2011.**
4. ~~Class Action suit against DAL concerning 5-yr look back worth in excess of \$100 million~~ - **withdrawn**
5. Appeal of Final Benefit Determination Letters (BDL's) PBGC re-calc "determination" of qualified annuity (likely after claim stock sale) – **in process until end of year (only 45 days to appeal) Appeal extensions generally granted in Nov 2010 now extended by our law firm for all to: revised to Feb 18, 2011 Now Mar 18, 2011, April 29, 2011, July 29, 2011, Aug 29, 2011, Filed with PBGC on Oct 28, 2011**
6. Pension reinstatement/contribution request by DP3 representing the retired pilots. **very long shot....pending**
7. ~~Roth IRA creation as per Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008~~ – **deadline June 22nd, 2009**
8. Expiration of HCTC 80% premium subsidy will expire on December 31, 2010. ~~Action has continued 80% for Jan & Feb.~~ **Action expired and subsidy effective April 1, 2011 payment, the HCTC is at 72.5%.)**
9. Financial condition of the D&S Plan--a plan that pays benefits to eligible survivors of deceased pilots as well as to disabled pilots. A form 5500 for the D&S Plan is filed annually.
10. Formation of a VEBA Health Insurance plan by DP3 – VEBA has been created and in effect.

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Insurance (issues about health, life or disability that are of interest):

Pension:

Had an after church lunch today with an old Delta friend and we ended up talking a bit about the DP3 and the PBGC. Both of us were concerned about AMR dumping another pension on the underfunded PBGC and found it interesting that the PBGC was begging AMR to keep its pilot pension. We also were speculating about the success of the appeal to a PBGC board with a current deficit and a vested interest. Both of us hope that the arguments are so strong that fair minded individuals in government will decide to help repair "some" of the injury that DAL retired pilots have incurred. Of course if the appeal falls on deaf ears, then seemingly the only recourse is a law suit with which we are ready for as well. Interestingly, enough while AMR came up in the discussion about pensions, we also talked about its exposure to hostile takeovers during its journey through the bankruptcy process. While DAL was able to fend off outside interest, AMR may not have as much capability. And of course one of the hostile takeover parties is DAL itself. Never a dull moment.

As the PBGC appeals progresses the sensitivity of the information does as well. While the PCN has re-published many of DP3 general postings, we will refrain from re-publishing “private emails” in view of the nature of the process. So when there is a general update we will re-publish and when there is a private email we will help announce its existence.

To PCN subscribers these links are “hot” and will take you directly to the DP3 resource page or checklist for filing an appeal concerning your PBGC benefits.

Click for **Appeal info:**

<http://www.dp3.org/>

Call PBGC in DC- 1-800-400-7242

Link of explanation for BSW ([Benefit Statement Worksheet](#))

(Note: Must know your DP3 assigned passwords which cannot be shared in our newsletter!)

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Commercial Section.....

Investment (Legitimate firms that have helped our group are encouraged to contact PCN to add articles here):

Travel & Non-Revving (share a quick reco):

Life Section...

Misc Posts:

From: Capt767er@aol.com

Date: 01/22/12 14:06:15

To: mark@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: Buddy Certifying

Mark,

I "certified" my non-dependent children some time ago and received the paper notification in the mail. However, this process does not "certify" their eligibility for pass travel!!!! This is a real GOTCHA. On the original ESS page there are two red tabs one for dependent certification and one for "Buddy" certification. This does not refer to any info about respective dependents but the fact that it logs a series of responses obviously dictated by corporate lawyers for possible use in future actions. We all know the drill about how to deal with agents at the airport. We can't! They hold the cards and a small number of them abuse their position. It always comes down to who said what and when! Result everyone is under stress and sometimes defensive.

Please publish that "Certification" is actually a two step process. One does not guarantee the other apparently.

One must go to the ESS page (I do not recommend using the links on the home page-I was misled by those)

Under Certify--click on CERTIFY BUDDY PASS Policy. This is totally separate from certifying your dependents or non dependents.

Time is running out! When your dependents are being certified the site advises to check back in 48 hours to make sure it was done correctly. I would highly recommend this since their is little time for USPS confirmation by DAL.

Rick Bauer

767er Capt Retired

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From: k1fjm@aol.com

Date: 1/18/2012 10:33:26 AM

To: misc@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: DAL-ESC: Lost Check
18JAN2012

My monthly DAL Insurance payment bill was generated by DAL on 10NOV2011.

On 19NOV2011 I sent a check for NOV & DEC 2011 to DAL ESC at the PIT address.

On 05DEC2011, it cleared Mellon Bank.

On 21DEC2011, I received a bill which stated that I had not made my payment for NOV2011. On 21DEC2011, the PHX ESC stated that my payment was not yet entered into the system and that I should not worry. I told them that I could send ESC a copy of the front/back of the cleared check from DCCU. The ESC did not want it.

On Sat, 14JAN2012, I received a bill (dated 11JAN2011) which stated that my insurance would be canceled with no opportunity to reinstate it, if I did not pay my overdue payments.

On 17JAN2012, I called PHX ESC. A case number was then assigned and again I was told that ESC did not want a copy of my canceled check. I then asked for a supervisor.

I was then told by a supervisor that my check which cleared Mellon Bank 6 weeks ago, had not been encoded yet and that I could fax a copy of my canceled check to the PHX ESC. (I sent it immediately.) If the monies from the cashed check are found by ESC, then I have no problem. Otherwise I am responsible for the payment lost by DAL's ESC and can appeal through the proper channels.

F/O Pete Heins, DAL ret. for 5 years and 8 days

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From: [Ned Jones](#)
Date: 01/17/12 16:13:43
To: death@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: Picture of deceased

Carol,

Thank you for the great work you do in informing us all of our departed "family". Was wondering, as I get older, if a recent or not so recent picture could be included of these fine men and women so that we all could remember them more easily.

Thanks again,

Ned Jones, Captain B-777, Retired

Editor: Ned, your timing is impeccable. For a few years we have not been happy about the limitations placed on our notices through the google group. We lived with them because of the wonderful email function of the GG. Now we are finalizing a blog format and we will be able to have a number of improvements to death notices. Here are a few of the improvements: auto archived, searchable, includes images, can subscribe to the service for free, and formatting for mobile devices enabled. We are not quite ready to "officially" roll out this site but you may wish to bookmark it now and keep your eyes posted. Soon all death notices will point to this site. <http://pcnflightwest.blogspot.com/>

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From: [C.D. Hurley](#)
Date: 1/16/2012 12:32:18 AM
To: mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: Cannot open

Can't open this edition Mark!
There are no "red" subjects...
Thanks!
Dan Hurley

Editor: Dan, I just tested it again and it was ok. So two things to try. Completely close browser and try to open and reload the page again. Second, assure you have the latest version of adobe reader, it sometimes is the culprit. I included Dan's email for the benefit of others who sometimes have trouble opening the HL the usual way.

From: [C.D. Hurley](#)

Date: 01/16/12 21:21:43

To: [Mark Sztanyo](#)

Subject: Re: Cannot open

Thank you Mark. I had shut down and no improvement. However, I shut down for the night and this morning it worked. Who knows what lurks behind, as well as in front of this screen?

I know you have run many reminders of the "Employee Data Certification" program but **please run one final note;**

Open the verification from Delta, **PRINT A COPY**, and keep it with your permanent records.

Even if you think your business with the company is over, remember, every pilot (I believe) has a \$10,000 basic (paid) life insurance policy, and you never know what will rear its ugly head in the future, if not for you, for your dependants. **MAKE A COPY.**

MY BEST WISHES FOR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS FOR 2012.

Dan Hurley BOS Ret.

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Movement again to replace DALPA:

Date: Fri, 13 Jan 2012 21:11:59 -0600

From: arenasf@comcast.net

To: timjackson100@hotmail.com

Subject: Delta Pilots Association - DPA News - TWA Lawsuit Update and Kitty Hawk Exposed

Tim ~ There are some very heavy duty events occurring regarding the TWA vs ALPA victory of the former TWA pilots. The Delta pilots, in the email below, are being asked to consider some of the fall out as the damages may fall upon the Delta actives. Also the amount sought in damages, \$1.2 billion would essentially kill ALPA. TWA & ALPA have, however, consented to enter mediation to determine the amount of damages. At the end of the email are several links that provide interesting reading. Fred

<http://www.delta-pilots.org/dpa-news/2012/1/9/twa-lawsuit-update-and-kitty-hawk-exposed.html?SSScrollPosition=286>

Human Interest:

From: [Eric Jensen](#)

Date: 1/2/2012 1:07:06 AM

To: [Eric Jensen](#)

Subject: FW: Viet-Nam War Wall

Thought this would be of interest. Eric Jensen

Someone spent a lot of time on this and it is truly remarkable endeavor! To all my fellow Veterans and Vietnam Vets please take a look at the link below which is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Viet Nam war with the names, bio's and other information on our lost comrades. It is a very interesting link, and those who served in that time frame and lost friends or

family can look them up on this site. Pass it on to other veterans and those who support veterans or who you think would like this.

First click on a state.....then when it opensa name.....then it should show you a picture of the person or at least his bio and medals.....

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

Good Read (Good book recommendation & [Community Author's](#) blurbs):

Event Announcements (Click here for [Calendar](#)): to post pcn.calendar@gmail.com

This is the PCN Calendar designed for you to publish your 2011 event dates. Please send them in to Kim.
Click here for our PCN [Calendar](#).

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From: [Bean, Judy M](#)

Date: 01/19/12 07:52:38

To: [Bean, Judy M](#)

Subject: Images Sale for 2012

IMAGES SALE FOR 2012

January 23rd – February 2nd

In front of Museum Store in Hangar 1 at Delta's GO Complex
Photographs/Posters/Banners and much more

Perfect for office or home

Please share this email with anyone you think would be interested.

Thanks,

Judy

Judy Bean | Heritage Museum Store Manager

404-773-1219 | Judy.M.Bean@Delta.com

I am looking for.....” (Share a post of who you are seeking, if one sought answers....wallah):

Good Deal/Bad Deal (Share a quick good deal or bad deal you have found – no commercials here!)

Hangar Flying (Share a bit of ole hangar flying with the net. Need a sim buddy? Use PCN for request) :

From: THFoster6@aol.com

Date: 01/16/12 22:15:50

To: misc@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: Check out #! Delta F/A Tribute

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBjKkVdXZ5w&feature=player_embedded#!

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Some of these have circulated but always fun to watch:

From: [David L. Roberts](#)

Date: 11/19/11 23:30:54

To:

Subject: Jet Man through the Grand Canyon

Thanks to Jerry Conrad for sending this interesting video. Enjoy the music "Adiemus" which was used in a Delta commercial back in the 1990s.

Dave

Dave,

Don't know if you've seen this or not, but I thought I'd pass it along or if you wanted to put it out.

Jerry

Subject: FW: Jet Man through the Grand Canyon....WA-H000000000000000

Here's something you won't see everyday

And what did YOU do today that was exciting? Rewarding? Giving a lift to your sorry, humdrum and boring life living on old memories? This old timer is 83 years old...can jump over very small buildings, wakes up early (0500) has a double espresso, one shot of Grappa to kick starts his heart...then on to some real flying!

<http://www.youtube.com/v/WgdIE2t8QkM?>

Political (food for thought):

Admittedly political and slanted but as this political environment gets cranked up some will find interesting:

From: [Buford Ness](#)

Date: 01/16/12 10:26:18

To: [Mark Sztanyo](#)

Subject: Letter from Pat Boone

I think most of our pilots will enjoy with this.

"The President without a country." by Pat Boone.

<http://www.snopes.com/politics/soapbox/patboone.asp>

Blessings to you,

Buff Ness
Home: 417-544-4343
Cell: 972-841-3970

Humor/Sobering or Fun (Share some humor with the net):

Football and the Blonde-I love this one!

Of all the blonde jokes, this one has to be the best -- because it makes football make sense!

A guy took his blonde girlfriend to her first football game. They had great seats right behind their team's bench.

After the game, he asked her how she liked it. "Oh, I really liked it," she replied, "especially the tight pants and all the big muscles, but I just couldn't understand why they were killing each other over 25 cents."

Dumbfounded, her boyfriend asked, "What do you mean?" "Well, they flipped a coin, one team got it and then for the rest of the game, all they kept screaming was... 'Get the quarterback! Get the quarterback!' I'm like...Hellooooooo? It's only 25 cents!!!!"

Mark

Mark Sztanyo (Stăn'yō), PCN Dir & HL Editor
[Pilot Communication Net](#) from Aug 2009
[Contact the Net](#)

Life on earth will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last!

Serving the Delta community, and pilots (active and retired) and their families, *including original Delta, and former: C&S, Northeast, Pan-Am, Western, NWA, Republic, North-Central, Southern Airways, Hughes- Airwest, and all the Delta Connection carriers.*

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Delta Pilots Pension Preservation Organization - <http://www.dp3.org>
Delta Museum & Fly-in information - <http://www.deltamuseum.org>
Delta Pioneers - <http://www.deltapioneersinc.com/>
Delta Golden Wings - <http://www.deltagoldenwings.com/>

Delta Retiree Connection - <http://www.dlretiree.info>
Delta Retirement Committee - <http://www.dalrc.org/>
DAL Pilots DDPSA - <http://www.ddpsa.com/>
Delta Extra Net Portal -<http://dlnet.delta.com/>
National Retiree Legislative Network - <http://www.nrln.org/>

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