



ECA
Piloting Safety

THE AIRLINE PILOT PROFESSION CODE OF ETHICS

This code has been prepared by the European Cockpit Association. It provides Airline Pilots with an ethical guide to help them accomplish their work and take their responsibilities to the highest professional standard.

This code also defines the principles that the profession believes are required from its peers in order to fulfill the trust and shoulder the responsibility and authority that has been bestowed upon them in order to operate safely and successfully accomplish their mission.

The cornerstones of the principles that govern this code are defined as:

Professionalism – Integrity – Leadership

Airline Pilots are safety professionals. As such, the prime duty of each Airline Pilot is to uphold the safety of the travelling public. In doing so, the Airline Pilot Profession undertakes the following:

A pilot's fundamental responsibilities

- As a profession, we acknowledge and accept that **the ultimate responsibility and final authority for the safe conduct of the flight** lies with the pilot in command and his/her deputy. We will aim to fulfill these **responsibilities** in accordance with and in **awareness of all** relevant **rules, procedures and legal requirements** applicable.
- We understand that we have an overriding duty of care beyond the professional responsibility to **manage the operational safety risk, as well as the effectiveness and efficiency of the mission.**
- **In the interest of safety** and to avert harm to the aircraft, its passengers and crew or third parties, we will, if required, **use our authority** to deviate from these rules, procedures and legal requirements based on our experience, airmanship and in accordance to our best knowledge and intent.
- While the ultimate responsibility and authority lie with us, we understand that we work at the **center of a team**, without which we would not be able to accomplish our mission. We will give our best **support to this team**, whether crew, operational, engineering or other personnel, to help them fulfil their work efficiently and safely in the best overall interest of the team.

- As a safety profession, we endeavor to engage in, promote and strengthen the highest safety and training standards. As such, we see mentoring and fellowship as an essential part of our profession, sharing our experience and knowledge in order to encourage our colleagues to achieve the highest possible standards of airmanship.

A Pilot's personal responsibilities

- We will endeavor to create an atmosphere that promotes **mutual respect and trust** within the crew and the wider team and generates **confidence in our leadership**. We will also encourage team members to **speak up, voice concerns** and suggest alternatives freely when the situation requires it. This is essential for a high level of safety. We will further support each member of our crew/team to give their best effort in order to develop their full potential.
- We are **ambassadors** for both our **company and our profession**. As such we will display the necessary **courtesy, respect and professionalism** that can be expected from professional pilots. In our decision-making process, we will proactively consider passenger convenience as well as other company considerations, to the extent that flight safety is assured at all times.
- We will approach the challenges of our profession with the **modesty and honesty** to allow ourselves to constantly **self-reflect and accept our limitations**, shortcomings and weaknesses and **challenge ourselves** to be the best that we can be.
- We understand that, despite the best of our intentions, our experience and our extensive training, as humans we are prone to error. We understand that hiding our errors from others and from ourselves may potentially compromise safety. We understand that **acknowledging and addressing our mistakes** and learning from them will help in making our flights and other's even safer. We therefore also commit to report incidents whenever they had or could have had an impact on safety. For this, we expect Just Culture principles to be applied and promoted in accordance with applicable legislation and industry best practices.
- We will at times be required to take and **enforce difficult decisions** and **take responsibility** for them. We will not hesitate to take these decisions in the best interest of safety and our passengers, in line with the authority bestowed upon us.
- Against this background, we understand that fulfilling the highest standards of professionalism and airmanship requires constant **dedication, (self-)discipline, reassessment** and **mindfulness** of the constant challenges. We embrace those challenges willingly in line with the commitment to the long tradition of the Airline Pilot Profession.

* * *

Final, 20/09/2017