



## 2024 was an eventful year

Dear !

Time flies and we are now on final approach for 2025! Looking back at 2024 we realise that a lot of things happened for AEI, as well as for many of our affiliates. Read about some of the events that took place in this Newsletter.

### The Annual Congress in Sydney

**The Annual Congress was very well received by delegates and invited guests. A more detailed description was sent out to affiliates after congress.**

One thing to highlight from congress is that all Executive Board positions are now filled, which is not an easy task to achieve. We really appreciate the support shown by affiliates, nominating members for the AEI EB!

#### The EB 2024-2025

- President - Ola Blomqvist, SFF, Sweden
- Secretary General - Chris Burleigh, ALAEA, Australia
- Vice President - Oyvind Strom, NHF, Norway
- Internal Affairs - Trevor Lee, AMEA, New Zealand
- Treasurer- Girjanun (Sanjeev) Coylas, LAEA, Mauritius
- ATAC Chairman - Geir Eriksen, NFO, Norway
- PR Chairman - Robert Swankhuizen, NVLT, Netherlands
- Secretary Americas - Cameron Lampley, AMFA, USA
- Secretary Europe, Africa, ME - Fred Bruggeman, NVLT, Netherlands
- Secretary Asia-Pacific, Mathew Rea, ALAEA, Australia
- Executive Officer - Shamal Pieris, Associate member, Sri Lanka

- Executive Officer - Martin Bannister, Prospect, UK
- Executive Officer - Nicolas Dauve, UNSA/ARIEN, France
- Executive Officer - Tomas Vlasak, SFF, Sweden
- Executive Officer - Mario Moreira, SITEMA, Portugal



## AEI Affiliates

Affiliated unions managed to close deals with several employers, both for union representation and for improved Collective Bargaining Agreements. To mention one of the big achievements, our American affiliate, AMFA, are now representing AMEs in Canada. Engineers in one airline/MRO after the other have chosen a craft specific union as their representative, which is very positive!

Many affiliates also negotiated new CBAs during 2024. Due to the lack of competent technical staff, many affiliates managed to improve salaries and other benefits. This in order to maintain staff and to attract new people to joining the industry.

The workforce (lack of competent staff) has been the number one topic 2024, as it was in 2023, and we have probably not seen the worst consequences of this issue yet.



## EASA and FAA

New EASA regulations on training content and licensing (Part-66) have been introduced. AEI was represented in the rulemaking group by Geir Eriksen, our Technical Affairs Committee Chairman. His input was instrumental in the way it contributed to the end result. The President of AEI, Ola Blomqvist took part in another rulemaking group, dealing with regulations for Maintenance Training Organisations (Part-147). This is still in progress and we are expecting a final opinion to be sent to the EU Commission for decision during 2025.

Our American affiliate, AMFA supported the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) final rule on Drug and Alcohol Testing of Certificated Repair Station Employees Located Outside the United States under CFR 14 Part 120. This measure represents a significant

Affiliates, as well as the AEI EB, are fighting hard not to allow this to undermine safety. This will continue in 2025, for sure!

step forward in promoting safety, consistency, and accountability in the global aviation maintenance industry.



## Happy New Year!

*"I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support in 2024! I am really looking forward to working closely together with you in 2025. Never hesitate to contact me or my EB friends whenever you have a question or if you need our support."*

*Ola Blomqvist, AEI President*



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