

EXPRESSJET ALPA



COVID-19 JOINT TASK FORCE



XJT ALPA COVID-19 Joint Task Force - Update 1

08 April 2020

The XJT MEC created the XJT ALPA COVID-19 Joint Task Force in order to manage the MEC response to COVID-19, coordinate with the company, and ensure the pilots are aware of the recommendations and best practices at the industry and throughout the country. The XJT ALPA COVID-19 Joint Task Force includes the Chairs of the XJT Safety, Aeromedical, HIMS, and Security Committees and others.

The task force met via conference call Monday, April 6. The work done by the task force will provide our pilots and flight instructors the education and known best practices to fight the COVID-19 threat to our pilots. These are certainly unprecedented times and the work we do today may change tomorrow.

The task force developed a task list that will serve as our policy as we navigate these challenging times. We will work together to utilize all available data sources, promote our recommendations to the workforce, and take steps to assure the new processes we've developed are working as designed or need to be revised. The task list includes eight items:

1. Educate pilots and flight instructors
2. Develop a list of approved cleaning materials (CHEMLIST)
3. Develop and ensure compliance with aircraft cleaning practices
4. Develop and ensure crew room/weather room cleaning
5. Develop and ensure Training Center cleaning
6. Develop preventive measures for pilots
7. Develop notification protocols for after a pilot has been diagnosed
8. Promote the protocols and processes to the pilots

The company has already developed guidance for its employees, some of which are included in this communication. The task force would like to begin this update by sharing with our pilots the importance of following the company and CDC guidance in order to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The CDC has developed the best practices and, like our manuals, we **MUST** follow them as closely as we can.

How COVID-19 spreads:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about six feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
- These droplets can land in the mouth or nose of people who are nearby, or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
- Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

How YOU can prevent the spread:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. **DO NOT TOUCH YOUR FACE.**
- Avoid close contact to other people (at least six feet).
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Use a face cover.
- Clean and sanitize

So how does this apply to flight crews, what is currently being done to prevent spread of the virus, and what we can do better to stop the spread of COVID-19 within our workplace?

Most importantly, do not come to work sick. The Association understands that many of you may not have sick time, have already had a number of occurrences, or have some other reason that prompts you to fly sick. We have all been there. NOW is not the time to guess. The CDC describes the symptoms here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

It is not possible to avoid close contact in the cockpit or the simulator, so we have to take the cleaning and sanitation of our workspaces very seriously. Cleaning products are hard to obtain. If the company could find a supplier, they most certainly would stock our workspaces with approved cleaning supplies. Therefore, at this time we ask our pilots to bring their own

cleaning products to work. We understand that finding your own cleaning supplies is difficult, but it is imperative that you only use the wipes that have been approved for use in the cockpit and the simulators. **DO NOT USE ANYTHING THAT HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED.**

The XJT ALPA COVID-19 Joint Task Force is developing a cockpit cleaning flow that we hope to publish soon. The cockpit should be treated with the ultimate care, for our lives depend on it functioning properly. The Association is asking all its members to step up and share if you have extra approved cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer. We all know that Sani-Coms are not effective against COVID-19, but our current supply is better than nothing at all.

REMINDER: To stop the spread regularly wash your hands (sanitize), clean work spaces, and DO NOT TOUCH YOUR FACE.

The following is company guidance on cleaning and cleaning products, per Scott Hall
03/29/2020

The following are the five types of Clorox wipes that are approved for flight deck cleaning. The ingredients listed on the label are unlikely to cause damage to the aircraft and you must follow the instructions for their use to minimize possible future hazards:

1. Clorox Disinfecting Wipes - Fresh Scent (EPA Registration Number 5813-79)
2. Clorox Disinfecting Wipes - Orange Fusion (EPA Registration Number 5813-79)
3. Clorox Disinfecting Wipes - Crisp Lemon (EPA Registration Number 5813-79)
4. Clorox Commercial Solution Clorox Disinfecting Wipes - Fresh Scent (EPA Registration Number 67619-31)
5. Clorox Healthcare VersaSure Alcohol-Free Disinfectant Cleaner Wipes (EPA Registration Number 67619-37)

Instructions for use:

1. Use these disinfectant wipes in the cabin, lavatory and flight deck as needed for disinfecting non-porous (hard) surfaces.
2. If using these disinfectant wipes on the flight deck, make sure that the wipes are only slightly damp prior to use.
3. In order to protect the avionics equipment, do not squeeze the wipes in the cockpit area or drip excess liquids anywhere in the cockpit.
4. Use these wipes by dampening the surface with sweeping motions while applying light pressure.
5. Do not use the wipes on glass screens. Keep surfaces wet for four (4) minutes before allowing surfaces to air dry if at all possible.

Flight Instructors: Jim Barbour provided guidance on 03/30/2020 via email. Please do not take the cleaning process for granted. Please take the time to sanitize before and after every session. If you do not have the time, please share your concerns with your managers and directors.

All of our pilots should read the guidance from the CDC on the management of sick travelers, which includes the cleaning of the aircraft after the flight.

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/air/managing-sick-travelers/ncov-airlines.html>

As the company continues to work with United and their vendors, we have been assured that turn cleans, RON cleans and deep cleans meet CDC guidance for disinfection of the cabins. More cleaning guidance will follow in other updates. Foggers are being purchased, electrostatic disinfection is being considered, and United is adding Virus Kits to all our aircraft before every flight out of a hub. These steps may not seem to be enough at this time, but it's a big mountain to climb. There are very little supplies available and there is no silver bullet to manage this threat.

Each and every pilot and flight instructor are our eyes and ears. If you see something, say something. Our best resource for data collection is the ASAP portal on XJT.com. The portal collects data and de-identifies every report. The ASAP ERC is looking out for COVID-19 threats and we need your help to oversee these new procedures for disinfecting our workspaces and making sure they are effective and efficient.

In the weeks ahead, we will gather more data and information to share with ExpressJet Pilots as the XJT ALPA COVID-19 Joint Task Force continues to meet. The task force will be working on priorities within the strategic plan and will communicate to you every Wednesday and Saturday with updates to discuss the constantly changing environment that we all have to navigate during this uncertain time. If you have any comments or concerns, please email XJTVirushelp@alpa.org.

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