

# MEC CAM

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How often have you been to an MEC meeting? By looking at the empty seats at meetings that I have attended or worked at, I would guess many of you reading this have never attended a meeting. The truth is, it can be difficult to attend for a variety of reasons, including your schedule and the meeting location.

To help you keep up with what is going on at the MEC meetings on a real-time basis, even if you can't attend, your Communications Committee is developing and will continue testing the *MEC CAM*. This is a system that will allow you to monitor the meetings using a link on the Pilots Only area of the US Airways pilots website at [www.usairwayspilots.org](http://www.usairwayspilots.org). The links will be placed in a variety of areas so they will be easy to find. MEC CAM is only available to US Airways pilots.

MEC CAM is a combination of a *header* with dates, times, and location; *live images*; and a *text narrative*, just below the image. When you go to the MEC CAM page, you will view a wide-angle, still image of the meeting in progress. This live image will automatically update every 60 seconds. A countdown timer shows the seconds remaining until the next update. If the timer ever stops for more than a minute or two, you will need to click your "Refresh" button on your browser and reload the page. If you click anywhere on the image, it will enlarge. However, the resolution will degrade, so we suggest leaving it at the default size.

Below the image is a text box. Here, the operator will post a general description of what is happening at the meeting. This will include *open session* information such as who the current speaker is, which committee is giving a report, the results of a vote, etc. You will also be

able to see what is on the agenda for that day. Just like the image, the text box will automatically update every 60 seconds.

While many of you have requested a live feed of video and audio of the meeting, there are technical challenges and other issues associated with this. Unless you have a high-speed Internet connection, the video and audio can be distorted. MEC CAM will actually give you a better image and description of the activity, even without the audio.

You can view a sample of MEC CAM by looking for the link on the Pilots Only home page, or on the Web Message Board. The image you will see was from the first actual test of this system, during the demonstration to the MEC at the 2001 first quarter meeting. The text portion was tested all week, and the image was only used during the Communications Committee report. Both performed perfectly. Your MEC approved it to be used and further tested at the second quarter meeting in June. You will play an important part in this test. We already know it will work, but now the question is, "Will you use it?" We will monitor the number of hits throughout the week. If enough people are logging in, and the MEC approves it, we will use it at future meetings.

While we don't expect you to monitor the entire meeting, we invite you to check in occasionally during the day to see what's going on. If you are on a layover, you might log on with your laptop for a few minutes to see your MEC reps and officers at work.

Remember, we invite you to attend the MEC meetings in person. However, if you can't, MEC CAM may be the next best thing.

*“To help you keep up with what is going on at the MEC meetings on a real-time basis, even if you can't attend, your Communications Committee has developed MEC CAM.”*



MEC CAM



Header

Live Images

Text Narrative

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