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(Neb.)-New FAA Regulations Not Impacting Chadron Airport - CORRECTED



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 08/19/2013 01:54 PM

(Chadron)-Although it may seem that FAA regulations regarding pilot training hours came about as a result of the crash of an Asiana airline in San Francisco this summer, it actually stems from an incident that came much earlier.

In a story reported on KCSR/KBPY and posted on Chadrad.com, it indicated the increase in pilot training hours from 250 to 1500 came about because of the crash in California which killed 2 and injured 180. However, various media outlets reporting on the increase in hours could be taken several ways, and unfortunately the information was misunderstood in our newsroom.

According to two visitors to Chadrad.com, one from a gentleman in California, although it may appear the increase in hours came about as a result of the most recent crash, it was actually a coincidence in the timing. According to www.faa.gov, "The new regulations stem in part from the tragic crash of Colgan Air 3407 in February 2009, and address a Congressional mandate in the Airline Safety and Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010 to ensure that both pilots and co-pilots receive the ATP certification."

The increase in hours has prompted some more major airlines to search for pilots in smaller market areas, such as Scottsbluff. While it was reported by KNEB on Monday that Great Lakes Airlines in Scottsbluff is seeing an impact on their pilot base, Mark Jensen, Station Manager for Great Lakes Airlines in Chadron, said the Chadron airport is still running business as usual.

According to Jensen, the number of flights leaving Chadron is less than Scottsbluff, and any delays would not be attributed to loss of pilots, but normal circumstances such as weather. He assures travelers they can still expect the same quality service at the Chadron airport as they always have.

(Questions? Comments? Email news@chadrad.com)

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