

Day 3 Report

ERA General Assembly 2013, sun still shining on Salzburg

The final day of ERA General Assembly 2013 provided a fantastic close to the conference. Members attending the AGM were delighted to hear the news that Boet Kreiken, managing director of KLM Cityhopper, has been appointed as the new President of ERA. A popular member of the ERA board, Kreiken has held several management positions at KLM across commercial and global account and pricing and revenue.

The news that Martin Isler, member of the executive management board of the Luxair Group has been re-elected Vice-President of ERA was also a popular decision and members were also pleased to welcome Laurent Pierre from Snecma to an Associate 1 position, Tony Whitty from Cabot Aviation to Affiliate Category II and Bernard Lavelle from London City Airport to Associate Category III. Simon McNamara, Director General of ERA, said that he is very much looking forward to working with Boet and other board members as ERA's future strategy is rolled out.

The decision to invite Doreen Welsh, senior flight attendant on US Airways Flight 1549, to speak about the Miracle on the Hudson, was an incredibly popular choice. Delegates were glued to their seats as Welsh recounted the events of the day until the end of the speech when the flight attendant received an unprecedented standing ovation.

This year's General Assembly was an undoubted success. The slightly shorter and more focused format allowed delegates to attend the informative sessions and network with their associates in the coffee and lunch breaks that were held in the busy exhibition hall. The ERA General Assembly next year will be held in Barcelona and it promises to be yet another great event.