



STATEMENT ON AIRLINER CABIN AIR

AUGUST 2018

The Honourable Company of Air Pilots notes the ongoing debate in the commercial aviation sector about the existence or otherwise of the so-called “aerotoxic syndrome”.

The Company has followed this topic for several years; it has reflected scientific reports addressing the technical and medical issues on its website¹. Nonetheless, aviation is a developing field that is continuously expanding human knowledge and experience in many areas.

The Company, whilst acknowledging that some individuals from the industry are suffering from significant symptoms, considers that further scientific studies would be required to prove, to the satisfaction of aviation medical, occupational medical, epidemiological and legal specialists, any causative link between airliner cabin air and the symptoms described.

Whether they eventually prove or disprove any causative link, such studies would need to be carried out in accordance with accepted scientific and ethical protocols so that their conduct and outcome is beyond professional criticism.

All members of the aviation industry would benefit from an early and conclusive resolution to this matter.

The Honourable Company of Air Pilots was established in 1929 as a Guild modelled on the lines of the City of London Livery Companies, to ensure that pilots and navigators were accepted and regarded as professionals. It was formally recognised as a Livery Company in 1956 and in 2014 was granted a Royal Charter in the name of The Honourable Company of Air Pilots.

Today the Company's activities are centred on sponsoring and encouraging actions to ensure that aircraft are piloted and navigated safely by highly competent, self-reliant, dependable and respected individuals. The Company fosters air pilot education and training from the initial training of young pilots to further specialist training through charitable activities, education and training, technical committee work, aircrew aptitude testing, scholarships and sponsorship, advice and recognition of the achievements of fellow aviators world-wide. This, together with the Company's world-wide membership base, keeps it at the forefront of the aviation world.

¹ See - Air Contamination Health Effects Report (posted October 2013) at <https://www.airpilots.org/file/1277/air-contamination-health-effects-report-oct-13.pdf>