VC POLICY
FOR WAKE TURBULENCE SEPARATION

IFALPA supports the development of procedures and systems that allow for a safe implementation of reduced wake turbulence separation, provided the following requirements are met:

1. General

1.1 Safety is always paramount when considering reduction of wake turbulence separation for the purpose of increasing aerodrome capacity.

1.2 The results of international research projects (ongoing or completed) is to be taken into account for a reduction of the separation criteria. All questions that IFALPA may have in regard to these issues shall be resolved to the satisfaction of IFALPA prior to a reduction of wake turbulence separation.

1.3 IFALPA supports the position of the US authority FAA (Federal Aviation Authority) decided by the Flight Standards Group in 1997, that no intended penetration of wake vortices is permitted.

2. Airborne wake turbulence warning systems

2.1 Ground based systems are required to properly plan and execute the application of future wake turbulence warning systems. Nevertheless, IFALPA believes there is a need to develop airborne systems, to enable pilots to make substantiated wake turbulence avoidance decisions.

3. Ground based wake turbulence advisory and warning systems

3.1 Provided the application of reduced wake turbulence separation is implemented on the basis of prediction models, a monitoring system shall be implemented that is able to locate possibly existing wake vortices and track their direction of motion, intensity and duration.

3.2 Prediction and monitoring systems shall be able to monitor the entire airspace in which reduced wake turbulence separation minima are to be

applied. This airspace is not limited to area of the final approach, but includes the entire approach area and if applicable, the take-off area as well.

3.3 Future systems shall be capable of creating a vertical profile of the temperature, wind direction and wind speed in increments of not more than 1,000 feet vertically in real-time, in order to enable a prediction of the expected horizontal and vertical displacement of a wake vortex as well as its estimated persistence. The measuring facilities shall be positioned in such a way to completely cover the airspace to be supervised.