







NPA WILOO, Kruidenstraat 19, B-8400 Oostende
NPA NET SKY, Rue Joseph Martin 12, B-4450 Lantin
NPA BOREAS, Rijkendalstraat 12, B-1853 Strombeek-Bever
NPA NPA BUTV-UBCNA, Avenue du Haras 100, B-1150 Brussel
NPA STERREBEEK 2000, F. Timmermanslaan 24, B-1933 Sterrebeek
NPA NPA BRUXELLES AIR LIBRE BRUSSEL, Rue L. Hap 41, B-1040 Brussel
WAKKER TERVUREN, Edmond Hanssenslaan 34, B-3080 Tervuren
NPA TROP DE BRUIT EN BRABANT WALLON, Rue de Bossut 14, B-1390 Grez-Doiceau





## **REGISTRED LETTER**

Vice-president of the Commission and Commissioner for Transport & Energy Mister Antonio Tajani European Commission Directorate General for Transport & Energy B-1049 Brussels

Oostende/Brussels/Liege July 11th 2008

Concerns: security of old freighter aircraft, especially aircraft of "Kalitta Air"

Dear Sir,

We are local residents living in the neighbourhood of Belgium airports. We are very concerned about the lack of safety of certain old freighter airplanes which operate on the airports of Ostend, Brussels and Liege in general and "Kalitta Air" in particular.

The cargo airline "Kalitta Air" recently had two major crashes within a period of 5 weeks, both with B747-200 planes, one in Brussels and the other in Bogotá (Columbia). This being pure coincidence is very dubious. The company was involved in quite a number of safety incidents in the past.

It is even more worrisome as to note that the sector of freighter air transport is being hit by very high fuel prices and as a consequence trying to cut cost by all means. Companies appear to keep aircraft and engines in service up to or past legal limits. This worrying trend of lowering aircraft maintenance standards across Europe as a result of commercial pressure has been highlighted during a conference of aircraft maintenance experts in September last year <sup>1</sup>.

Therefore we ask that for the time being "Kalitta Air" be put on the "List of airlines banned within the EU", until it is proven Kalitta to be fully compliant with all regulations concerning maintenance and personnel management.

We also wish to draw your attention on regular operations, on at least one of the above mentioned airports, of companies registered in countries where control and maintenance are insufficient or of companies which are in financial difficulties and so inclined to neglect international safety regulations <sup>2</sup>.

May we ask for a quick response?

Yours sincerely,

Jacques Denecker npa WILOO

by authorization:
Christophe Dehalleux, président npa NET SKY
Roger Vermeiren, président npa BOREAS
Jacques Vandenhoute, président npa UBCNA – BUTV
Luc Caluwaerts, président npa STERREBEEK 2000
Véronique De Potter d'indoye, président npa BRUXELLES AIR LIBRE BRUSSEL
Peter-Paul Struycken, spokesman WAKKER TERVUREN
Denis Marion, président npa TROP DE BRUIT EN BRABANT WALLON

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.easier.com/view/Travel/Flights/News/article-139295.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Oostende: "MK Airlines Ltd", "Air Charter Express Ltd", "Pronair Airlines", "Gemini Air Cargo"