### AIRPORT MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

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<th>Issue 19-16</th>
<th>October 18, 2019</th>
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<td><strong>CAE USA breaks ground on new headquarters in Tampa</strong> (Source: WTSP.com)</td>
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CAE USA broke ground Friday on its new state-of-the-art U.S. headquarters at Tampa International Airport. CAE USA is a leading training and simulation company in the defense market. The new facility, which is being leased from Space Florida, will be home to more than 600 Tampa-based employees.

“The legacy of CAE USA is now 80 years old and we have been in the Tampa Bay area for the last 40 years,” said Ray Duquette, President and General Manager, CAE USA. “We are excited to grow and expand to a new state-of-the-art facility at the Tampa airport. This will provide our employees a modern facility that will help us attract and retain the world-class workforce we need to develop advanced training solutions that enhance the mission readiness of the men and women in our defense forces.”

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis attended the groundbreaking. “This state-of-the-art facility at Tampa International Airport will further bolster our aviation and defense industry and create 100 additional high-skilled jobs for the community. We are grateful for CAE’s commitment and I look forward to their continued growth here in Florida,” said DeSantis.

CAE USA currently employs more than 500 people in the Tampa area and expects to create an additional 100 jobs when the new facility opens. Construction is expected to be complete in 2022.

**How Tampa and Orlando Airports are changing to make travel more convenient** (Source: WUSF.edu)

Projects are underway in Tampa and Orlando to reduce traffic congestion at airports, security screenings are becoming more high-tech, and Tampa even has a new policy that lets people hang out in airside terminals without a boarding pass. Listen in to this Florida Matters episode that talks about how some of our region’s airports are changing to make travel more convenient.

Guests on the program include Al Illustrato, Executive Vice President at Tampa International Airport, and Bill Brooks, Southeast Aviation Leader at HNTB Corporation, an infrastructure design firm that is involved with the construction of a new terminal at Orlando International Airport.

*Florida Matters airs Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 a.m. on WUSF 89.7. It also airs Mondays at 10 p.m. on Classical WSMR 89.1 and 103.9. Our show is available as a podcast.*
Reopened runway means fewer hassles at Fort Lauderdale Airport
(Source: SunSentinel.com)

Fort Lauderdale flyers will be less at the mercy of unexpected delays now that the airport’s north runway — one of only two at the airport — reopened Tuesday.

For the past four months, all planes at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport have been taking off and landing on its south runway while the older, north runway underwent a $95 million reconstruction. With both runways now open, delays caused by bad weather should be shortened as the airport will be able to get more flights into the air quicker following a storm, officials said.

“Everyone had to cue up and go off the one runway,” airport spokesman Greg Meyer said. “It increases the recovery time significantly.”

In addition, passengers on Delta, Southwest, Allegiant, United and other airlines using the two northernmost terminals now will taxi for less time before taking off. A typical three- to five-minute taxi to takeoff was roughly doubled for those airlines because of the greater distance to the south runway, Meyer said. “When you’re in the plane, it feels a lot longer,” Meyer said.

The overall impact of the construction project turned out to be minimal, officials said. There was a 3.3 percent reduction in flights over the past four months compared with the same period last year, Meyer said. Not all of that was because of the runway construction, he said. British Airways and Norwegian Air both eliminated service between Fort Lauderdale and London’s Gatwick Airport unrelated to the construction, Meyer said. Some of the flight reductions could also be due to the grounding of the 737 Max airplanes over safety concerns.

The reopening is good news for people living under the flight path of the airport’s south runway. They have had to endure all the airport take-offs and landings since June 3. However, those residents can still expect some sleep-interrupted nights because all after-midnight flights will still be limited to the south runway for the next 30 to 45 days while construction crews perform some final work on the north runway and related taxiway work. Portions of the old north runway dated back to 1943 when the airport was a naval training base during World War II. Prior to this year’s work, the last significant improvements to the runway were made in 2004.

Vero Beach Regional Airport could be getting U.S. Customs facility to ease travelers’ return

Corporate Air Inc. wants its customers to avoid a pit stop in U.S. Customs in Fort Pierce or Stuart when returning home from an overseas trip. The 32-year-old aircraft maintenance-and-storage business, headquartered at the Vero Beach Regional Airport, wants to build a $1.5 million local U.S. Customs and Border Protection facility and keep its customers from flying to other airports.

The business has a preliminary go-ahead for its plans, but city officials want to check over any agreements and plans to keep itself free of liability and extra costs if a Customs facility is built here. City Council members have expressed support for Corporate Air’s proposal once it gets federal approval. But the council last week held off on official action until Corporate Air receives a legal review and approval from the city Airport Commission.

The proposed agreement between the city and Corporate Air is expected to be discussed at the council’s Oct. 15 meeting. Corporate Air would pay about $1.5 million to build the facility and about $150,000 a year to operate it, said Don Loucks, company director of safety and security.
The company expects to recoup its investment through user fees and fuel sales, Loucks said. The Customs facility would be open to all fixed-base operators at the airport and their customers, officials told the council.

The idea for a local facility came about two years ago, when customers requested one, Loucks said. The closest Customs facilities are at Treasure Coast International Airport and Business Park in St. Lucie County and the Melbourne International Airport. A Customs facility also opened about a year ago at Witham Field in Stuart. That means an extra stop for pilots flying in from another country, and an added expense of $50 to $500, depending on the size of the plane, Corporate Air representative Michael Calvit told the council last week, "We have clients go to the Bahamas. To land (the planes on the way back) in Fort Pierce is expensive. That is that much more money going south of our border. A Customs facility would invite international travel here." The facility could help the local economy through increased visitors, who might stay over a few days at the beach and local hotels, eat at restaurants and shop, he said.

"It’s really kind of a win-win for the city," he said.

**AROUND THE STATE**

**NTSB: Firm tied to collapsed Miami bridge wasn’t qualified**

The firm that reviewed the design of a Miami university bridge that collapsed and killed six people last year was mistakenly listed in a Florida state report as qualified for that type of project even when it wasn’t, federal documents show.

The National Transportation Safety Board released nearly 6,300 pages of reports Tuesday examining the role of each contractor in the construction of the pedestrian bridge at Florida International University that collapsed March 15, 2018 onto eight cars.

NTSB says the Florida Department of Transportation listed the company Louis Berger Group, Inc. on a website-generated report as prequalified to evaluate the construction of a complex concrete bridge. FDOT told investigators it was a "technical error" on its website, as the company was not actually allowed to review that project.

In emails between FDOT representatives and an NTSB investigator, the state’s transportation department said firms involved in the project should not have simply relied on the website as proof of Louis Berger’s credentials, and should have done their own due diligence, such as seeing an actual letter of qualification from the state.

Furthermore, Louis Berger should have known whether it was qualified for the work, FDOT’s special counsel Latasha Johnson wrote in an email to an NTSB investigator. The level of qualification for that project required companies to have at least three professional engineers registered with the Florida State Board of Professional Engineers, and a minimum of five years of structural concrete bridge design experience.

FDOT told NTSB that Louis Berger never received the qualification that pedestrian bridge required. The company lost a qualification it had for less complex bridge designs in December 2016 because they lost some of their engineers.

Louis Berger did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The company that designed the bridge, FIGG Bridge Engineers, Inc., said in a response to NTSB findings that there was no disclosure on the state website saying firms shouldn’t rely on its website.

[Click here to keep reading...](#)

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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<tr>
<td>Florida International Air Show</td>
<td>Challenger Boulevard, Punta Gorda, FL 33982</td>
<td>November 1-3, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Committee Webinar PFAS</td>
<td>Additional details to come</td>
<td>November 8, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAA 2020 Southern Regional Airports Conference</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
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Please email lisa@floridaairports.org with calendar updates.
Two Florida Airports ranked among the top 10 on the Condé Nast ‘Best Airports’ List

Indianapolis International ranked first for the sixth consecutive year in Condé Nast’s Readers’ Choice Awards. The airport was recognized for its air service, food options and traveler-friendly security checkpoint design. The list of best U.S. airports is rounded out by Tampa International, ranked 6th and Palm Beach International, ranked 8th.

1. Indianapolis International
2. Savannah Hilton Head International
3. Portland (Oregon) International
4. Minneapolis-St. Paul International
5. Bradley International
6. Tampa International
7. Charleston International
8. Palm Beach International
9. Detroit Metro
10. Austin-Bergstrom International

The U.S. airlines taking top honors in the awards are:

1. Alaska Airlines
2. JetBlue Airways
3. Hawaiian Airlines
4. Southwest Airlines
5. Delta Air Lines

Condé Nast said this year’s awards saw a record 600,000 voters.
**Trump issues pair of regulatory reform executive orders**

President Donald Trump issued two new executive orders in the area of regulatory reform this week, intended to improve the transparency and fairness of government agencies and ensure that they are held accountable.

One order, “Executive Order on Promoting the Rule of Law Through Improved Agency Guidance Documents,” outlines several new requirements for government agencies that allow for greater public scrutiny and input. Among other things, the order requires agencies to put guidance documents on easily searchable websites, requires government agencies to seek public input on the most important guidance they issue, and allows for the public to ask agencies to withdraw guidance they believe is wrong.

The other order, “Executive Order on Promoting the Rule of Law Through Transparency and Fairness in Civil Administrative Enforcement and Adjudication,” prohibits agencies from enforcing rules they have not made publicly known in advance. The order also instructs agencies to offer opinion letters to individuals and businesses who request them in order to comply with federal law.

The executive orders check off another item on the list of airport regulatory reform priorities that AAAE and ACI-NA submitted to the White House and DOT in 2017. In that submission, the associations pressed for rigorous analysis of existing and new regulations, as well as a requirement that FAA use a full notice and comment process before imposing new burdens or restrictions on airports.

**DOT Inspector General to study FAA NextGen delivery**

The DOT Office of Inspector General last week announced it will conduct an audit of FAA’s implementation of the air traffic control upgrade known as NextGen.

“Since 2007, our office and others have identified a number of challenges to implementing NextGen programs and capabilities,” Assistant Inspector General for Aviation Audits Matthew E. Hampton wrote in a memo released by the OIG. “These challenges have led FAA to revise its projected benefits for NextGen multiple times.”

The audit’s goals, Hampton wrote, are to “(1) compare current expected benefits of NextGen to the original projections, (2) identify the changes in NextGen programs and capabilities that have caused the benefits to be revised, and (3) identify lessons learned from developing and implementing significant air traffic modernization programs.” The audit is scheduled to begin later this month.

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**Welcome NEW Members!!**

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United Airlines Holdings Inc. is escalating efforts to recruit pilots with new financial perks and faster career advancement as the carrier faces the retirement of almost half its aviators over the next decade.

The program, dubbed Aviate, is designed to attract more staff for regional airlines that fly for United, which will then look to field a large portion of its future pilot corps from those carriers.

“Our needs approach or exceed 10,000 pilots in the next 10 years. That really caused us to take a hard look at what we were doing.” Bryan Quigley, United’s senior vice president of flight operations, said Thursday on a conference call with reporters.

United is exploring financing options that will help new pilots pay for the high cost of training, including loan guarantees and loan forgiveness, Quigley said. Aspiring pilots can spend more than $100,000 on schooling and to accumulate the minimum 1,500 flight hours required to work for a regional carrier. That financial barrier has thinned pilot ranks and forced regional airlines to boost pay and signing bonuses.

More coaching and learning tools will help speed advancement. Pilots currently move from regional airlines to United today with an average of 6,500 flight hours, Quigley said. Through the Aviate program, that will be cut to as little as two years and 2,000 hours -- “the fastest path within the industry,” Chicago-based United said in a statement.

The U.S. Navy and Air Force, once sources of about half of United’s pilot hiring, now make up only 20% as the military struggles with its own pilot recruitment efforts, said Quigley, a former Navy aviator who is also United’s chief pilot.

United is the latest carrier to try to bolster its recruitment efforts. Last month, Southwest Airlines Co. said it would begin its first “ab initio” training program in 2020 to help recruit and train pilots. A similar program at JetBlue Airways Corp. expects to have its first graduates flying as first officers at the carrier next year.

Last year, Delta Air Lines Inc. began a program with eight universities to help identify and mentor future pilots.

FAA reaches ADS-B Airport Implementation milestone

The FAA has completed its final implementation milestone related to Automatic Dependent Surveillance – Broadcast (ADS-B). The last two of the 155 airports to receive ADS-B, Akron-Canton Airport and Mansfield Lahm Regional Airport, both in Ohio, became operational last month, the agency announced this week.

With the final two airports now operational, the FAA said its rollout of ADS-B baseline service has been successfully completed within budget and in advance of the Jan. 1, 2020, date by which aircraft flying in certain controlled airspace must be equipped with the technology.
Attention FAC Members:

It has been 5 years since the Council updated its Strategic Plan. Board Chairman Parker McClellan has made the re-visiting of our association’s vision, mission and goals a priority for his 2020 term. Ultimately, we hope to update the Council’s Strategic Plan with input from YOU!!

Please use the link above and take a moment to complete a survey that will assist us in this endeavor.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

BID-04-2019-ACR

The SARASOTA MANATEE AIRPORT AUTHORITY will receive sealed bids for the Access Control Replacement project at the Sarasota Bradenton International Airport, Sarasota, Florida, 3:00PM, Thursday, November 7, 2019 in the Dan McClure Auditorium, 1123 General Spaatz Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida 34243, at which time and place bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after stated time will not be accepted. Bidding documents may be examined digitally online at the following locations:

Demand Star: https://www.demandstar.com/
Manage Subscriptions at: http://www.onvia.com/demandstar-subscriptions,
or contact
Demand Star at demandstar@onvia.com for a complimentary agency subscription.
Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority website: https://srq-airport.com/bid-announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

LOQ 19-28LKD

The Lee County Port Authority ("Authority") invites the submission of Letters of Qualification from all interested and qualified parties to provide GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES, LOQ #19-281LKD, at RSW. A copy of the Letter of Qualification and instructions for submittal may be obtained online at www.publicpurchase.com. A MANDATORY pre-LOQ meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. 10/28/2019, in the LCPA Wright Brothers Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Southwest RSW Terminal, located at 11000 Terminal Access Road, Fort Myers, FL 33913. LOQ’s submitted from firms that have not attended the mandatory pre-LOQ meeting will not be considered. Receiving and opening of LOQ is scheduled for 2:00 p.m., Monday, November 18, 2019.

RFQ - North GA Ramp Rehabilitation Design, Permitting, Bidding and Construction Administration

Naples Airport Authority (NAA) invites the submission of Letters of Interest and Statements of Qualifications from all interested and qualified parties with demonstrated expertise in airport pavement rehabilitation design, permitting, bidding and construction administration. A copy of the detailed Request for Qualifications and instructions for submittal may be obtained from the Naples Airport Authority online at https://flynaples.com/doing-business-with-the-authority/open-bids/ beginning October 14, 2019. Responses are due no later than 10:00 a.m. EST, November 12, 2019.