

AirCurrents

NEW YORK AVIATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION • VOL. 5 NO. 2 • MAY 2003

Greater Rochester International Airport Completes \$4 Million Energy Improvement Project

NYSERDA Provides More Than \$900,000 to Improve Power Reliability to the Airport

The New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA), the Greater Rochester International Airport (GRIA) and Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. have partnered on a \$4.3 million energy efficiency project that includes a state-of-the-art combined heat and power system (CHP), lighting and controls.

Combined heat and power systems enable commercial and industrial energy users to generate their own electricity while using waste heat from the electric generation equipment for productive purposes, such as space heating, cooling and domestic hot water. To date, NYSERDA has committed more than \$900,000 to various energy-related projects at GRIA.

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NYAMA Knocks on Doors in Albany

Association Members Gather for Annual Advocacy Day

"In the midst of trying times, aviation remains the premiere form of transportation in the world today," said Stephen D. Williams, president of the New York Aviation Management Association (NYAMA), during the organization's opening session for the 2003 Annual Advocacy Day.

"Our challenge — and our focus today — is to educate state lawmakers about the importance of continued support from the state for the aviation community," continued Williams. "The extended downturn in the economy, increasing demand for improved security and the conflict in Iraq have all taken a toll on the industry. It's time for New York State to come to the plate and look at new ways to help the industry."

Airport managers from across the state — representing small and large, commercial and general aviation airports — and aviation industry consultants gathered in Albany on March 4th to advocate for the aviation industry in New York State.

The Association's Annual Advocacy provides opportunity to discuss with state legislators the importance of aviation to the state economy, and the need for renewed support from the state.

In the opening session, Association lobbyist Steve Acquario briefed attendees on the Association's legislative priorities for 2003, and the primary objectives for the day's activities.

"Our challenge... is to educate state lawmakers about the importance of continued support from the state for the aviation community."

— Stephen D. Williams, NYAMA President

"Chief among our objectives for the day is to educate state legislators about the importance of aviation to the state economy," said Acquario. "When you sit down and look at the numbers, it's astounding to see the incredible impact our industry has on local communities. The state's 18 commercial service airports and over 100 general aviation airports are attributed for over \$36 billion in economic activity in New York State. Over 300,000 New York State residents owe their jobs directly or indirectly to airports, accounting for an estimated \$12 billion in salaries and wages annually." *Continued on page 4*

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From the President



Stephen D. Williams
President

Word on the Wing

From the
President

It seems like just yesterday we were gearing up to produce and distribute the last edition of Air Currents, the Association's quarterly newsletter.

We were coming off the tails of a successful Airport Security Coordinator (ASC) training program, and gearing up for the Association's Annual Advocacy Day.

Now we're coming off the tails of a very successful Advocacy Day, and looking ahead to the Annual Fall Conference. My how time flies!

Thank you to all who made the trip to Albany for our Annual Advocacy Day. It was apparent once again how important this event is for the Association. Besides the need to continually be educating our state lawmakers about the importance of aviation and the industry's significant impact on state and local economies, several meetings with key legislators yielded valuable information about available financial resources for the industry. Our lobbyist, Steve Acquario, will be following up with the appropriate people to find out more about these opportunities.

In the meantime, I want to remind everyone that our advocacy efforts cannot be a once-a-year phenomenon. The real advocacy effort begins when we leave Albany, and go back to our legislators' district offices, working to hammer the message home. As always, if you need help, suggestions, or direction in any way, feel free to contact Association Headquarters or Steve Acquario directly for more information.

I also want to extend special thanks to our Advocacy Day sponsors. I want you to know that you are greatly appreciated — likely more than you know — for your financial support for the Association. Events so critical to the industry, like the Advocacy Day, would simply not be possible without your support.

In that regard, we are working to develop a more comprehensive "Business Partner Program," designed to streamline our sponsorship outreach efforts, and ensure that sponsoring companies receive the exposure and support year round that they deserve. You'll likely see more information about this in upcoming weeks.

The Association's leadership is taking an exciting step forward this month. The previously scheduled Board of Directors meeting has been moved to May 29th, and will feature a strategy session run by a professional strategy consultant. This is an important step for the Association, as we seek to re-invent ourselves to better address the changing needs of the industry, and better prepare ourselves for structured growth. We will be sure to update you about the meeting in the next newsletter.

In other news, most of you have likely heard that the Aviation Services Bureau of the NYS Department of Transportation recently saw four employees retire. On March 28, 2003, Rick Chimera, Doug Fox, Bob Pawlowski, and Carolyn Demkowski were honored during a retirement party held in their behalf. Their 130+ years of combined state service will be greatly missed!

Over the years, NYAMA has grown in their relationship with DOT, most recently working together on the Statewide Aviation Training Program (SATP), a joint effort to provide for the increasing training needs of the state's airports. Rick Chimera, the Bureau Director, was a frequent participant in NYAMA Board meetings and conferences, providing timely updates on the state's activities on behalf of aviation.

We wish them the best in their retirement!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Association's Fall Conference & Expo, to be held September 28-30, 2003 in Albany. The conference is hosted by Albany International Airport, and will be held at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center. The program development is well underway, and promises to be an exciting, and educational event. The Association has invited Lt. Colonel Commander Ron Guran from NASA to speak during the organization's annual banquet on Tuesday, September 30th. In celebration of 100 years of flight, a presentation on the future of space flight seems most appropriate.

Stay involved, stay in touch, continue to advocate for aviation on the home-front, and have a great Summer.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Williams
President

President Bush Signs Spending Bill

Taken from the *Airport Report* • March 1, 2003

President Bush on February 20 signed the fiscal year 2003 omnibus appropriations bill into law. The measure provides funding to DOT, FAA, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and a number of other federal agencies through the remainder of the fiscal year, which ends September 30.

The federal government has operated on a series of continuing resolutions since the new fiscal year began.

The following is a comprehensive list of airport-related items in the bill:

- Full funding of the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) at \$3.4 billion. Of that amount, \$20 million is made available for the Small Community Air Service Development Program and \$63.6 million is provided for program administration. Further, the bill directs FAA to provide specific dollar amounts from AIP for a number of designated "high priority" airport projects. A list of these projects can be viewed at <http://www.airportnet.org/depts/federal/budget/AIPPriorityProjects.pdf>.
- \$265 million within the TSA budget in new funds for terminal modifications necessary to accommodate explosives detection system (EDS) equipment.
- A new program within the TSA's budget based on FAA's Letter of Intent (LOI) process authorized at \$500 million per year for five years to help pay for EDS installation. However, an authorization does not necessarily guarantee funding. The measure includes report language on this provision that seeks to ensure adequate resources are available for smaller airports.
- A provision requiring TSA to pay for its use of space at airports other than at screening checkpoints.
- \$250 million to reimburse state and local entities for providing law enforcement at screening checkpoints.
- Provisions allowing for the continued use of state and local law enforcement officers on a voluntary and reimbursable basis at screening checkpoints and a modification of the "fixed post" requirement.
- A provision allowing airports to pay for FAA staff and consultants to help with environmental review work for key capacity projects.
- Full funding of \$78 million for FAA's Contract Tower Program and \$6 million for the Contract tower Cost-Sharing Program.
- A provision making FAA Contract Tower construction and equipment AIP-eligible.
- \$113 million for the Essential Air Service Program.
- \$148 million for FAA Research, Engineering and Development.

The bill includes an across-the-board spending cut of less than 1 percent that will affect funding totals sited above. It also maintains the 45,000 cap on the number of TSA employees.

The bill also directs the FAA to provide specific dollar amounts from AIP for a number of designated "high priority" projects at specific airports. A list of those projects can be viewed at: www.airportnet.org/depts/federal/budget/AIPPriorityProjects.pdf.

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Greater Rochester International Airport Firefighters don Turnout Gear for a Good Cause

Greater Rochester International Airport (GRIA) Firefighters donned their proximity turnout gear and skis for the 3rd Annual Western New York Firefighters Ski Race. The race raised money for the Finger Lakes Regional Burn Association. GRIA ARFF raised \$875.00 in cash and prizes.

The race consisted of 4 Firefighters in full turnout gear skiing down a difficult 3000' Giant Slalom race course, carrying a 50' length of 1" fire hose. Ski Team Captain, Chief Bob Spiegel, "I believe that we may be the #1 Airport ARFF ski team in the country considering we maybe the only one that has ever raced in an event of this type". The Rochester Airport Firefighters finished 10th in the event that had 38 times recorded. All of the other Fire Department teams racing were from Central and Western New York.

"We may not have won the event but, we raised a lot of money, had a lot of fun and we were without a doubt the best dressed" Spiegel said. There was never any question what team was racing as the GRIA Team made its way through the course wearing traditional Silver Proximity Turnout Gear.

NYAMA Knocks on Doors in Albany

Continued from Page 1

“What I find particularly interesting,” continued Acquario, “is that a relatively small public investment leverages significant economic return for local communities and the State. For this reason alone, state lawmakers should see how critical — and beneficial — it is to maintain and increase the state’s financial support for aviation.”

The Association wrapped up the day’s activities with a Legislative reception in the evening.

“We had a lot of competition from other interest groups this evening,” said Acquario.

“The fact that we drew a sizeable crowd for our Legislative Reception, including several committee chairs from both houses, is a testimony to the importance of aviation in New York State.”

“There is no question that this event holds critical weight in the Association’s legislative efforts,” said Williams. “It’s so important that we have representation from airports across the state. Activities like this remind us how much strength we have in a unified, statewide voice.”

Association Members Gather for Annual Advocacy Day & Legislative Reception





Special Thanks to our Advocacy Day Sponsors!

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2003 Legislative Priorities

Support dedication of the \$1 M New York Statewide Opportunities for Airport Revitalization Program "NYSOARs."

These funds can be used for air service studies, market analysis, preparation of applications of public/private partnerships and the pledge of community and/or industry funding, to airports and communities where improved commercial air service is essential for the economic development of the community, and existing commercial services are characterized by unreasonably high air fares and/or insufficient service for the application to and the participation in the federal low fare demonstration program established pursuant to federal law. NYAMA recommends funds be used in part to:

- **Provide the non-federal share of the Federal Small Community Air Service Development Pilot Program for eligible NY airports.** The purpose of the Small Community Air Service Program is to recruit and retain air service in distressed areas of our state.
- **Provide for the continuation of the Statewide Aviation Training Program [SATP],** originally funded through the New York Legislature's Airport Improvement and Revitalization Program (AIR 99), and authorized by the New York State Department of Transportation. This important training program addresses the training and technical assistance needs of all airports located across the state.

Support Additional State Funding for Airport Improvement and Revitalization Grant and Loan Program (AIR 99), established in Section 14-1 of the Transportation Law and Section 88-d of the State Finance Law. All available funding for AIR 99 has been allocated. Additional monies are needed to upgrade airports, improve safety, attract additional air service and further promote economic development and transportation initiatives in airports and the communities they serve.

Support the continuation of the state's 5% matching share of federal AIP funds. Current funding proposed in 2003/04 Executive Budget is \$8M.

FAA Forecasts Modest Growth Through 2014

Taken from ATW Media Group/
ATWonline.com • March 18, 2003

US air traffic is not expected to return to pre-9/11 levels until 2006, according to FAA's annual aviation forecast.

Even so, FAA forecasters remain optimistic, saying that US Major carriers can expect "positive growth in 2003," with international markets growing faster than domestic markets over the next 12 years. Director of Aviation Policy and Plans, John Rodgers said he is hopeful for "modest recovery in 2003" followed by stronger performances in 2004 and 2005.

Domestic capacity for US carriers is forecast to decline some 1% this year, mainly owing to extensive route restructuring primarily by United Airlines and US Airways. Domestic capacity is projected to increase 3.3% in 2004, 3.5% in 2005 and 3% in 2006, when the industry climbs back to pre-9/11 levels.

Much of the growth will occur in Latin America and the Asia/Pacific region with annual increases of 5.1% and 4.7% respectively, FAA said. The forecast said Regional airlines will continue to grow at a faster rate than Majors through transfer of mainline routes as well as expansion into new markets.

Previously, FAA predicted that a billion passengers would be flying yearly by 2014, but officials now are expecting between 850,000 and 900,000 passengers by then.

A key to recovery centers on the ability of airlines to reduce their costs to become more competitive with low-cost carriers. Rodgers said, "We've got a good product and there is a way to market that product for traffic." Additionally, he said risks to the accuracy of the forecast include international tensions, the continued decline in the number of business travelers and the ability of airlines to continue to cut operating costs.

In spite of the industry downturn over the past two years, Rodgers said many hub airports still are experiencing congestion during peak hours. But the overall slowdown affords an opportunity to plan for increased demand that is expected to return over the next several years. "In a dozen years we expect a significant increase in airline activity and we have to prepare for it," he said.

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House Begins FAA Re-authorization Debate

Taken from the *Airport Report* • March 1, 2003

Rep. John Mica (R-Fla.), Chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee, recently proclaimed his intention to preserve the gains achieved in AIR-21 as Congress begins work on FAA Re-authorization. The current FAA authorization bill expires in September, and Mica said he wants to mark up the new bill this Spring.

During a February 12 Re-authorization hearing, lawmakers discussed the uncertain future of the aviation industry and raised concerns about service to small communities. Several members voiced their opposition to using a growing portion of Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds for security purposes.

In his testimony, DOT inspector General Ken Mead described the \$3 billion to \$5 billion shortfall in funding to install explosives detection system (EDS) machines behind the ticket counters at airports.

However, Rep. Shelley Berkley (D-Nev.) commented, "We should make sure security does not impact safety and capacity." Rep. James Oberstar (D-Minn.) said there is a need to "recapture" AIP dollars for capacity.

Gerald Dillingham, Director of Civil Aviation issues at the General Accounting Office, pointed to ACI-NA's estimate that the average annual capital development cost at airports will be approximately \$15 billion between 2002 and 2006. He noted that if airports continue to receive about \$12 billion a year for that purpose, they are already facing a \$3 billion shortfall before funds are diverted for security purposes.

Dillingham echoed Mead's recommendation that air traffic system capacity be expanded in order to meet future demand. He cited a recent GAO report that stated airports spent approximately 10 years building recently completed runways. It will take approximately 14 years to build runways that have not yet been completed, the report found.

"Ensuring the efficient operation of the nation's airspace system is an important Re-authorization issue that is vital to improving mobility and supporting economic growth," Dillingham said. "Despite the overall decline in air traffic since September 11, demand is gradually increasing, and at some airports, especially those in the Midwest, recovery is progressing more rapidly."

Mica said that improving service to small communities will be another area for attention in the next FAA Re-authorization bill. In background information prepared for the hearing, the subcommittee described a few possible remedies to improve this service, including potential changes to the Essential Air Service Program and allowing foreign airlines to provide service to small communities.

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FREE Fire Truck

The Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport will be receiving a new fire truck later this year. The airport's current training vehicle has become surplus to requirements, as is offered...

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For more information call: Dave Crawford, Operations Supervisor, Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport (607) 257-0456

Greater Rochester International Airport Completes \$4 Million Energy Improvement Project

Continued from page 1

“New York State leads the way in terms of combined heat and power system installations. Our programs will ensure waste heat from this style of power generation is used to maximize efficiency and environmental benefits,” said NYSERDA Acting President Peter R. Smith. “This technology will provide users greater control over their energy costs while protecting them from power disruptions and blackouts that could bring negative impacts on the airports operations.”

“This new heating and power system gives the airport the cost efficiency and the operational independence so important to meet the current times,” said Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle. “We expect to save approximately 48 percent or more than \$480,000 in annual energy costs at the airport. NYSERDA has not only helped our airport greatly, but has assisted in more than 180 other projects with industry and businesses here in Monroe County. I applaud the Governor for his vision and support in this critically important arena of energy efficiency.”

To highlight the project, GRIA will open a website, www.rocenergysavings.com, and kiosk to provide an overview of the project for business and institutions interested in CHP. The site will present information about the type of CHP system installed, diagrams of the system and details of the sites energy and environmental gains from the system operation. The website will also include a video developed by four local high school students from Churchville Chili Central Schools who worked on this project under an internship with Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. The system is expected to yield a reduction of more than 6 million kilowatt hours per year or enough electricity to power more than 1000 homes. GRIA is expected to save approximately \$334,000 in annual energy costs.

The combined heat and power system for the airport provides multiple benefits for the airport facility, airport travelers, and county taxpayers. These benefits are realized through energy cost savings, increased power quality and reliability, environmental improvements and increased stability relating to future energy costs at the airport.

The CHP system consists of two medium-sized 750-kilowatt engine driven co-generation units that produce electricity and hot water. The hot water is linked to the existing airport heating system and central cooling system. Hot water heat recovered from the Cogeneration units is used to heat the airport in Winter, but through a special mechanism known as an absorption chiller, it also provides the conditioning requirements in the Summer. The CHP plant simultaneously produces most of the airport's electricity as well as its hot water, building heat and air conditioning.

The 56 projects NYSERDA is supporting represent a total investment of \$96 million in combined heat and power when co-funding for the projects is factored in. The CHP program and the projects supported will address power generation, availability, reliability, and power quality needs of New York State while emphasizing energy efficiency and environmental quality. The projects are expected to result in direct energy, environmental, and economic benefits such as peak electric demand reduction, higher fuel-use efficiency, emissions reduction, lower energy costs, job creation, and product sales.

New York Business Aviation Forum on June 5

NBAA invites your company to display its products and services to the New York-area business aviation community, one of the world's largest and most active corporate aviation centers. NBAA's New York Business Aviation Forum & Static Display, to be held at Republic Airport (FRG) in Farmingdale, NY on June 5, will feature dozens of Exhibitors, more than 30 aircraft on Static Display and more than 1,500 Attendees. Indoor exhibit space is still available, and Static Display space is available for new, charter and pre-owned aircraft. Admission to the Forum is complimentary. In addition to the exhibits, the NBAA Forum also will offer Attendees a number of informational sessions on important topics such as security, safety, maintenance, taxes and insurance. For more information, to register, or to exhibit, visit: http://www.nbaa.org/seminars/baf/baf_2003_06_05.htm.

New York International Air Show

June 14-15, 2003

On the ground and in the air a high energy aerial event is being planned for the Hudson Valley area for the Summer of 2003.

Stewart International Airport will be the site of an Air Spectacular during the national "Centennial of Flight" celebration.

Stewart International Airport and the National Express Group in cooperation with the Air Show Network will be presenting the US Navy Blue Angels as the featured act during this spectacular New York International Air Show.

It has been over a decade since an air show has been staged at Stewart. The event is expected to attract 50,000 people per day, providing both an economic impact and a positive public relations experience for the area. The key to success of a major event is the support of the local community. Corporations will be solicited for sponsorships and numerous volunteers will be required in areas such as performer hospitality, greeters and clean up. Fundraising opportunities are also available for local charities and Sports Clubs. For additional information you may contact the Air Show network via email at info@airshownetwork.com or visit their web site at www.airshownetwork.com.

The Air Spectacular will allow the residents of the Hudson Valley, Northern New Jersey and Metropolitan New York City to experience quality entertainment presented by top Aerial acts performing high-energy maneuvers. On the ground all types of military and civilian aircraft and ground equipment will be on display along with high tech corporate exhibits.

"We are very excited about hosting an event of this caliber for both the local community, and the rest of the Hudson Valley Region," said Kiran Jain, general manager of marketing at Stewart International Airport. "We look forward to working with the Air Show Network in producing a successful, world class air spectacular."

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**New York Aviation Management Association
2003 Fall Conference
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When: September 28-30, 2003
**Where: Desmond Hotel & Conference Center
Albany, New York**
Hosted by: Albany International Airport

Please mark your calendar for NYAMA's Annual
Fall Conference and Exhibit Show. Registration
materials will be distributed mid-summer. Check
our web-site periodically at www.nyama.com for
program updates and other conference details.

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