

New York Aviation Management Association



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2012 Fall Conference & Exhibit Show

NYAMA's Fall Conference Brings in over 100 Professionals, Dignitaries from Across the State, Country

NAMA's 2012 Fall Conference and Exhibit Show in Niagara Falls celebrated the Association's 36th year of successful training and advocacy for New York's aviation industry. The annual Fall Conference is designed to provide airport managers, corporate representatives, public officials, aviation educators and students a forum for education, networking, and a professional exchange of knowledge and innovation.

Guests at this year's conference attended general sessions and specific panels that addressed diverse and critical issues and developments emerging from the industry. Some of the focused discussions included economic growth through airports, airport sustainability plans, managing airport contracts, development of air services, and Safety Management Systems implementation. "Buffalo Niagara International and Niagara Falls International Airports were honored to host this year's Fall Conference", said William Vanecek, Director of Aviation at Buffalo Niagara International Airport. "It was one of our most successful in recent memory, and we had a magnificent guest turnout along with well-respected speakers who are considered experts in their fields", he added.

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ADVANCING AVIATION. ADVANCING NEW YORK!



Word on the Wing Message from the President



Ann B. Crook, AAE NYAMA President

Dear Friend of Aviation:

t has been an incredible year for NYAMA! I would like to thank you for the privilege of serving as President of New York's most important aviation-related trade association. Our recent efforts to promote NYAMA and gain increased state and national recognition from organizations such as AAAE, ACI-North America, and NASAO have made us one of the top state aviation associations in the country!

I would like to thank Chad Nixon, our outgoing president, for his outstanding service over the past year. Chad has worked tirelessly with our membership to reach out to new organizations and prospective members, and has fostered relationships with New York State and federal legislators and officials to highlight the aviation industry's central role in economic development in New York. Over the last year, NYAMA has actively reached out to members and non-members alike to promote our industry. Here are some of the highlights:

- In February, Chad and I met with FAA officials and staff from the offices of key federal legislators, including Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, to discuss the impact of the new FAA Reauthorization Bill, concerns about AIP funding falling from 95% to 90%, and discussion about mineral extraction and the FAA's ASSET study for small airports.
- In March, we held our annual Advocacy Day in Albany and met with more than 75 legislators.
- > September's Fall Conference welcomed more than 100 people and included experts from a variety of fields. We were also pleased to welcome local, state, and federal dignitaries, including New York State Senator George Maziarz, New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Joan McDonald, and Eastern Regional Administrator for the FAA, Carmine Gallo. We also welcomed two students from the Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology at this year's conference. We intend to see more students at future Association events.
- > NYAMA also had a great round of our popular Peer Review workshops this year, which aim to increase awareness about the latest technical, economic, and policy-driven developments in the aviation industry. Special thanks to everyone who made the Airport CEO Summit, Airport Snow Removal, GA Airport and FBO Roundtable, and Wildlife Management Plan Peer Reviews possible.

As we move forward into 2013, I welcome you to share new ideas or developments with NYAMA. I also welcome all members to consider participating on any one of our committees. Feel free to contact me or our Albany office at 518-432-9973 or info@nyama.com if you have any questions or need assistance.

Sincerely,

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Ann B. Crook, AAE NYAMA President Director of Aviation Elmira Corning Regional Airport

Fall Conference

2012 Fall Conference continued from cover

Guests were also treated to a special presentation on aviation's unique history in the Niagara Falls Region, which pioneered some of the industry's most significant achievements in the 20th century that include the development of commercial helicopters and Chuck Yeager's Bell X-1 supersonic plane. Our most sincere gratitude goes to our guest speakers who helped make this year's Fall Conference possible!

- > Ann Crook, Director of Aviation, Elmira Corning Regional Airport: Safety Management Systems Implementation
- **) John Harden**, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, AvPORTS: Contract Management and Privatization
- > Joanne Landry, Landry Consultants: Safety Management Systems Implementation
- > Carol Lurie, Airport Sustainability Planning Team, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.: Sustainability Master Plan
- > Hugh M. Neeson, Trustee and Executive Committee Member, Niagara Aerospace Museum: *Our Local Aviation History*
- > Barney Parrella, Executive Vice President, InterVISTAS Consulting Group: Air Service Development
- > Greg Principato, President, Airports Council International—North America: Airports Driving Economic Growth
- > Jeffrey R. Wood, Transportation Division Manager/ Environmental Practice Leader, McFarland Johnson, Inc.: Sustainability Master Plan.

NYAMA also had the privilege of hosting regional, state, and federal dignitaries and representatives during the conference's Welcome and Opening Session and Luncheon. Special thanks to our honored guests:

- **Commissioner Joan McDonald**, New York State Department of Transportation
- > Senator George Maziarz, New York State Senate
- > Mayor Paul Dyster, City of Niagara Falls
- > Carmine Gallo, Eastern Regional Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration
- **Kimberley Minkel**, Executive Director, Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority.

Thank you also to Steve Urlass, Manager of FAA-NYADO and Gerardo Mendoza, Acting Director of NYSDOT's Aviation Bureau, for providing our attendees with FAA and DOT updates, respectively.











From top down:

Chad Nixon welcomes everyone to the Fall Conference at the Welcome Wine, Cheese and Chocolate Reception

From left, NYS Senator George Maziarz, NFTA Executive Director Kim Minkel, FAA Eastern Regional Administrator Carmine Gallo, ACI-NA President Greg Principato, Buffalo Niagara Aviation Director Bill Vanecek. Carol Lurie discusses airport sustainability practices

Attendees listen in on the Welcome and Opening Session



Fall Conference

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Phil Brito Project of the Year Award

NYAMA would like to thank everyone involved with this year's Phil Brito Project of the Year Award, which recognizes engineering and planning consulting firms for outstanding achievement in an aviation-related planning, design, or designbuild project for an airport or airports located within New York State. Entries were reviewed by the New York State Department of Transportation Aviation Bureau, the award's administrator. Special thanks to NYSDOT for its assistance with coordinating this prestigious award, and to DOT Commissioner Joan McDonald for presenting the Phil Brito Award to this year's recipients. Entry fees from the award are used to fund scholarships for students in aviationrelated curriculums to attend the annual Fall Conference and Exhibit Show.

About the Winning Projects: **Design/Construct Category**

McFarland Johnson submitted a project involving the development and implementation of a radiant heating system for an apron at the Greater Binghamton Airport. The heating system, which is integrated into the pavement, will melt ice and snow, reducing build-up and easing snow removal.

Non-Design Category

McFarland Johnson submitted a non-design project related to increasing sustainability efforts for the Buffalo Niagara International Airport and integrating them into its sustainability master plan. The planning process was also linked to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).



NYSDOT Commissioner Joan McDonald presents Michael Churchill of McFarland Johnson with one of the Phil Brito Awards

Thank You 2012 Exhibitors!

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Fall Conference



Bill Shea Award

NYAMA was honored to welcome Bill Shea, a former airport director, FAA Administrator, educator, lecturer, and founding President of NYAMA as a distinguished guest at this year's Fall Conference. Mr. Shea also had the privilege of presenting his award to this year's recipient.

The Bill Shea award is given to an individual who has demonstrated exemplary leadership, effected positive change in New York State's aviation industry, and has exceeded all expectations to make significant impacts in aviation. The difficult and unique credentials associated with the Bill Shea Award means that NYAMA does not give this award without careful consideration, and not every year.

The New York Aviation Management Association is pleased to present this year's Bill Shea Award to Frederick "Fritz" Kass, who has dedicated his entire adult life to the service of our country and the aviation industry. Fritz began his aviation career in 1960. As a student at Lehigh University, he chartered aircraft to fly students and faculty to Europe during summers. A retired Navy captain, Fritz served as Director of Aviation of Orange County Airport from 1995-2006, and currently serves as a FAA Safety Team volunteer, an Airport Support Network Volunteer for Stewart International Airport, and an AOPA Regional Representative.

Fritz exemplifies the qualities that are sought for consideration of a Bill Shea Award recipient. He has devoted much of his time to the NYAMA Board of Directors, the Voice of Aviation Political Action Committee, and continues to volunteer for numerous aviation-related causes. His advocacy has helped NYAMA to gain widespread support and recognition.



Bill Shea presents the Bill Shea Award to Fritz Kass during the Fall Conference Luncheon

Developments from the Fall Conference— A New Year Ahead

Ann B. Crook, AAE, Director of Aviation at Elmira Corning Regional Airport, was elected NYAMA President during its annual Business Meeting—an integral part of the Fall Conference and Exhibit Show. Ms. Crook has previously served as NYAMA's Vice President, and brings 22 years of aviation management experience to the Association.

Crook expressed enthusiasm about her new role with NYAMA: "We are ready to address the challenges that lay ahead for New York's aviation industry in the coming year...NYAMA's mission of promoting economic growth through airports and advancing our state's aviation industry will be assisted by real-time communication about pertinent industry news to our membership, continued advocacy efforts with our state and federal legislators, and outreach efforts to everyone involved with New York aviation."

Thursday's Business Meeting also hosted elections for NYAMA's Board of Directors and officers. For the complete NYAMA Board of Directors roster, please see the back cover.

Congratulations to our new officers:

- > **Christina Callahan**, Commissioner of Aviation, Syracuse Hancock International Airport, *Vice President*
- > William J. McShane, Vice President, Sheltair Aviation Services, *Treasurer*
- Edward J. Mullins, Manager, Airline Business Development, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Secretary
- Chad Nixon, Senior Vice President, McFarland Johnson, Inc., Past President

Wrapping Up...

The New York Aviation Management Association would like to acknowledge its Fall Conference Planning Committee members for all of their hard work and dedication towards making this year's Fall Conference and Exhibit Show one of our most successful yet! Special thanks to William Vanecek, Lee Weitz, Thomas Dames, Ralfa Musialowski, Geri Serhia, and Beverly Halligan of Buffalo Niagara International Airport, NFTA. We would also like to thank the wonderful staff at the Conference Center Niagara Falls, the Sheraton at the Falls Hotel, and the City of Niagara Falls for all of their generous support. Thank you to all attendees, sponsors, vendors, and everyone else who made this year's Fall Conference and Exhibit Show possible. See you next year in Albany!



Association News

Meet Our Newest Board Members NYAMA welcomes three new members to its Board of Directors!

Michael A. Giardino, Greater Rochester International Airport

Michael Giardino is the Director of Aviation at Greater Rochester International Airport (ROC). Michael aspired to be a pilot at a young age as he watched his father take flying lessons.



In September 2011, he retired from the United States Navy as a commander following a decorated 26-year military career that included assignments with the NATO Air Component Command, deployments to Afghanistan, Executive Officer of Naval Air Station Key West, Florida, and 2,540 flight hours. His experience includes aviation program planning, emergency preparedness, community relations, and financial, facilities and human resource management.

As Director of Aviation at ROC, Michael is responsible for managing a \$32.6 million dollar public commercial aviation facility that accommodates approximately 2.4 million passengers annually. The Airport is responsible for creating and sustaining 10,000 jobs, generating \$295 million in revenue, and contributes over \$800 million to the local economy each year. The airport is served by seven commercial airlines that offer an average of 23,000 seats each week, providing passengers with affordable air travel to key destinations across the globe.

A native of Rochester, Michael is a proud graduate of Charlotte High School. He attended the University of Rochester and graduated from SUNY College at Brockport with a BS in Meteorology. He holds an MS in Information Systems Management from the Naval Postgraduate School and earned his MA from the Naval War College in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Aside from his work with NYAMA, Michael is also active with the Rochester Veterans Outreach Center. He is Six Sigma Black Belt trained and has held numerous volunteer, mentoring and fundraising positions related to his sons' academic, sporting, music and scouting endeavors. Michael is proud to once again call Rochester home. He resides with his wife, Janice and two sons: Dominic, a freshman at the Eastman School of Music, and Kyle, a lance corporal in the United States Marine Corp, currently serving in Afghanistan.

Jeremy Martelle, ACE The Louis Berger Group, Inc.

Jeremy Martelle serves as a Senior Aviation Planner and Project Manager with Louis Berger's Global Aviation Services Group. Mr. Martelle specializes in a wide range of aviationrelated services that include airport



management, security, operations, general and commercial aviation finance activities, wildlife hazard assessments, airport master and system planning, and airport business development. Prior to joining The Louis Berger Group, Mr. Martelle served as the Manager of Operations for Albany International Airport in Albany, New York. As the Operations and Security Manager, Mr. Martelle managed a staff that ensured compliance with federal, state, and local regulations, which included Federal Aviation Regulation Part 139 and Transportation Security Regulation Part 1542.

In addition to his civilian aviation experience, Mr. Martelle has been an active member of the United States Air Force and the New York Air National Guard for the past 21 years. His military training and education in aviation brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in airport aviation operations. Mr. Martelle has extensive experience with joint use airports globally, including those located in Southwest Asia, Polar Regions of the Arctic and Antarctic, and Western Europe. Mr. Martelle has also volunteered his broad aviation knowledge by serving as the second Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the Empire State Aerosciences Museum (ESAM), Advisor for Fixed Base Operator Fortune Air Aviation, and the 2005 Director of the ESAM Northeast Air Show at the Schenectady County Airport.

Mr. Martelle resides with his wife, Paula and two children: Jeremy (age 10) and Julia (age 8) in the Town of Bethlehem, just south of the City of Albany. He is very active in Town government, and also works closely with the local community. He is a Member of the Upper Hudson Library System Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors for School's Out Inc., as well as Vice President of the Bethlehem Public Library's Board of Trustees. During his down time, he enjoys skiing, basketball, politics, and spending time with his family.

Association News



New Board Members continued

Chris Kreig Plattsburgh International Airport



Christopher Kreig is Airport Manager of Plattsburgh

International Airport, returning in December of 2011 to the position he held previously from 2007-2008. Prior to his return as Airport Manager, Chris worked for the Transportation Security Administration as the Assistant Federal Security Director for TSA at Burlington International Airport and Southern Vermont Regional Airport in Rutland. Chris began his civilian aviation management career as Assistant Manager, then Manager, of the Adirondack Regional Airport in Harrietstown (Saranac Lake). Prior to entering the civilian aviation industry, Chris worked in Human Resources in Recruitment and Employee Relations in the Transportation, Healthcare, and Manufacturing Sectors.

A career officer in the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserve, Chris spent 11 years on active duty as a B-52 and KC-135 Navigator, doing tours of duty at Loring AFB, ME, Plattsburgh AFB, NY and Grand Forks AFB, ND. Chris left active duty in 1997 and joined the Air Force Reserve, serving as operations officer, then commander, of an Air Mobility Control Unit at Westover ARB, MA that established contingency air mobility operations at locations world-wide. Chris was activated for Operation Iraqi Freedom in March 2003, and served as Operations Officer at the Baghdad International Airport. He is currently a Colonel serving as an Air Force Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer to FEMA Region II in Manhattan.

Chris received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the State University of New York, College at New Paltz, and a Master's Degree in Aviation Management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

NYAMA Wraps Up Final Peer Review Workshop of the Year

NYAMA hosted its last Peer Review workshop for 2012 on Wednesday, September 12th at Westchester County Airport in White Plains, New York. The Wildlife Management Plan Peer Review Session covered a wide variety of topics related to effective and best practices for wildlife management that coincide with Federal Aviation Administration and United States Department of Agriculture guidelines.

The Wildlife Peer Review drew in over 30 attendees-many of them wildlife specialists and managers of nearby airports. "Westchester County Airport was thrilled to host this Peer Review", said Stephen Ferguson, Assistant Airport Manager at Westchester County Airport, who moderated the program. "We had a fantastic turnout that provided us with tremendous insight from leading experts about wildlife management strategies here in White Plains, and helped us to understand other unique wildlife management problems in New York State and throughout the country". Ferguson noted that the workshop's popularity may lead to another one next year at about the same time, during rutting and migration season. Joel Russell, Manager of Albany International Airport, who helped organize September's event, was equally enthusiastic about turnout and participation: "We had a terrific overview of the most up-to-date planning and implementation methods related to managing local wildlife at airports. We were pleased to welcome experts from USDA and other airports who have had extensive experience in this area to share their own experiences."

NYAMA would like to extend its gratitude to guest speakers at this last Peer Review, including Ari Elinsky, Manager of Construction, Wildlife, and Security at New Jersey's Teterboro Airport, who spoke about that airport's wildlife management program; Matthew Palumbo, USDA Wildlife Services, who spoke about USDA presence at Westchester County Airport and the successful relationship with that airport's operator; Susan Vilord of Clough Harbour & Associates, who spoke about wildlife management programs and their importance for consideration in airport master planning, and John Starace, Operations Manager at Westchester County Airport, who spoke about that airport's wildlife management program.

NYAMA's 2013 Advocacy Day

Save the date—NYAMA's 2013 Advocacy Day will be on **Tuesday, March 12 in Albany**. More details to come!



Association News

2013 Fall Conference in Albany

The 2012 Fall Conference may be over, but 2013's Fall Conference and Exhibit show is right around the corner! Don't miss out on a chance to explore New York's Capital Region, take in the special events in Saratoga, and enjoy some Upstate New York fall scenery. Check the NYAMA website periodically for more details to come! Be sure to also visit www.albany.org/nyama/ to learn more about the Albany region.

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in

Follow us on Twitter! Follow our Twitter page for the latest NYAMA and aviation industry updates.

Join the Group! Targeted specifically towards industry professionals, there is no better place to network, build and maintain professional relationships, and share best practices and important industry news. Start expanding your professional network on LinkedIn today!



E-Currents *E-currents* is NYAMA's new weekly, informative email filled with the aviation industry's latest news and product information. Check your inbox every Thursday morning for the latest edition, and be sure to access the *e-currents* archive at www.nyama.com

Legislative Update



Legislative Update

NYS DOT Two Year Transportation Capital Plan Proposal

Recently, the New York State Department of Transportation submitted a proposed Two Year Capital Plan to the New York Works Task Force. The Task Force is a 13-member panel appointed by the Governor and legislative leaders that is charged with developing a statewide infrastructure plan to effectively and strategically allocate New York's capital investment funding and create jobs.

The Plan is not funded (a funding plan is expected to be part of the Governor's Executive Budget, to be released to the Legislature in late-January 2013), but instead represents the DOT's "reengineered" capital program focused on "asset management and infrastructure preservation strategies" that link "transportation with economic development". The level of funding aviation systems need depends on the state's ability to finance the Plan's Strategic I and Strategic II Investment Levels.

While the Plan contains few details and has no accompanying project lists as yet, NYAMA should be encouraged by the Plan's treatment of several budget areas of concern to us for which we have been aggressively advocating:

Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Match

Under the Strategic I investment alternative, New York State would continue to provide matching funds for fifty-percent of the non-federal share of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grants to New York airports, leveraging important Federal aid. NYAMA argued for this increase based on the 2012 changes to the Federal Aviation Authorization legislation that increased the non-federal share from five percent to ten percent of the total project cost for most airports. Thus, the proposed two-year capital program doubles the match available for this program as requested by NYAMA.

Critical Transfer Language Endorsed by DOT

In 2007, NYAMA succeeded in adding language to the State Capital Projects Budget that authorized the transfer of the unused portion of AIP Match funds to the AIR '99 program to fund revenue-producing infrastructure improvements, economic development, job creation, and safety and security projects.

This language, however, has not been included in all budgets since 2007. The Plan once again proposes that unused AIP matching funds be redirected to support aviation infrastructure investments. This is another critical endorsement of a NYAMA initiative.

Strategic II Investment Funding

The AIR-99 Program provided \$15 million per year for vital airport infrastructure projects. This important program expired in Fiscal Year 2009-2010, and was the last year state funding was dedicated to airports—other than through the AIP Match program.

NYAMA has been seeking state approval of a dedicated fund or revenue source that would re-fund AIR-99. We have been heard—the Strategic II Investment Level of the Plan proposes \$14 million of funding for airports over the next two years. This funding would be directed to commercial and general aviation airports that sustain and create jobs, and generate income for local economies.

Continued NYAMA Advocacy

To insure that all of these DOT proposed enhancements to state aviation funding are included as part of the Executive Budget Proposal and are ultimately enacted, NYAMA will continue to be the Voice of Aviation in New York and work with the Governor, state legislators, and policymakers to promote investment in airports and the state's aviation industry.



Industry News

New York Airport Improvement Projects Are on the Rise

n the current economic environment. New York's aviation industry has made considerable progress in moving forward with improvement projects at airports across the state. Numerous projects are in various phases of planning and construction from the Southern Tier to the North Country to the Hudson Valley. Over the last two months alone, airport improvement projects have been announced, started or completed due in large part to a new round of funding through the Federal Aviation Administration and U.S. Department of Transportation. New York State has provided some funding as well. New York airports to benefit from this recent flow of investment capital include: Plattsburgh International Airport, Greater Binghamton and Tri-Cities Airports in Broome County, Elmira Corning Regional Airport, Stewart International Airport, Buffalo Niagara International Airport, and Griffiss International Airport in Oneida County.

Much of the funding has or will go towards infrastructure projects at the airports. Almost all of them have used at least small portions of their funding for runway improvement and expansion. This is good news for these airports' regional economies, which are starting to see a boost in construction, engineering, and management jobs as a result. Many of the much-needed jobs are temporary, but the end products they provide for Upstate New York will quickly increase passenger traffic and airport operations once completed, which can only help New York, not hurt it.

Sources: News Channel 34-Binghamton, Bloomberg.com, Times Herald Record, IthacaJournal.com, News Channel 2-Utica, WENY-TV, Niagara Frontier Publications/ wnypapers.com.

New York Airport Improvement Projects Currently Planned, Underway, or Completed:

- Plattsburgh International Airport: The FAA has awarded \$6.55 million for the airport to upgrade its runways and its main terminal. Nearly half of that grant will be used to fund a project related to Plattsburgh International's water management.
- Greater Binghamton Airport: A \$1.2 million grant from the FAA has been awarded to improve drainage and paving of some of the airports critical operational service areas.
- **Tri-Cities Airport:** Located in Endicott, NY, Tri-Cities will use \$1.4 million from the FAA to repave its heavily used primary apron.
- > Elmira Corning Regional Airport: The U.S. Department of Transportation provided nearly \$10 million for the airport's recently completed runway expansion, which will allow it to accommodate bigger commercial airliners. The airport is expecting sizable increases of passenger traffic as a result.
- **Stewart International Airport:** \$1.95 million in federal funding will contribute to runway improvements.
- **Buffalo Niagara International Airport:** The airport is ready to begin an expansion of one of its long-term parking areas, using close to \$7 million in funds from the state.
- >Griffiss International Airport: Griffiss, a former U.S. Air Force base, will receive \$270,000 through the Military Airport Program, a federal initiative to turn military airports into facilities for public use. The MAP funding will be used to improve the airport's hangars. The U.S. Department of Transportation will provide an additional \$475,200 for various improvement projects as well.

Industry News



NextGen Update

his summer, *Air Currents* highlighted some promising examples of Next Generation Air Transportation System's emergence in the aviation industry. The few airports where NextGen has been adopted mostly deal with the satellite-based technology on a limited or trial basis. Yet NextGen, which is more accurate and reliable than conventional radar guidance systems, is gaining ground with public and government policymakers, and New York State may be a major testing ground for it.

As this summer's *Air Currents* went to print, New York's aviation industry took a big leap forward when the FAA announced that a new air traffic control facility, which will use NextGen and function for the New York City area and parts of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, will be located in New York State. Despite the mystery of its actual location (the FAA has not decided where in New York yet), such a facility is an automatic win for New York aviation and the state's economy.

Operating in such a busy area, the new air traffic control center will undoubtedly boost NextGen's profile and, if successful in the short-term, will serve as an example for other aiports and regional hubs to switch over to it in the long-term, saving fuel for every flight and putting more travelers in the air at once.

The new NextGen center itself will also provide jobs for its region. Increased air traffic will mean busier airports and jobs to serve them. Whether the facility comes to Stewart International Airport or Long Island MacArthur Airport—the two have recently made headlines as they compete for the opportunity to house the new facility—or it comes closer to New York City, it will unquestionably change New York State for the better.

Sources: Times Herald Record, The Oklahoman



Air

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