

Pennsylvania Aviation News

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Aviation Council of Pennsylvania

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AVIATION COUNCIL WILL RECALL THE '60S DURING 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

The Aviation Council of Pennsylvania has reached the 50-year mark of providing services and support to the aviation and aerospace industry in Pennsylvania. "Making it to 50 years in any business is quite an achievement," according to **Everitt duPont**, council president and owner of New Garden Aviation in Toughkenamon, Pa.

Council founder, **Wilfred M. "Wiley"**

Post Jr., was the airport manager at A-B-E Airport in Allentown for over 35 years. Wiley would be pleased that the association is still active, vibrant and moving forward serving its members and the commonwealth.

There is a deep and rich aviation history that surrounds the Council. There are active Council board members who have been guided by Post. Wiley was always willing to help and mentor those coming into the aviation industry.

This year's **Pennsylvania Aviation & Aerospace Conference** includes recognition of the Council's past presidents and other leaders in the aviation industry at its reception dinner featuring '60s-style entertainment by **the Original Drifters**. Plan to attend September 22-24, 2010, in the Poconos. The Council website has registration information: www.acpfly.com ✈



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above: Restored DC3 at Lancaster

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◀ **The Original Drifters take the stage at Wednesday September 22nd's Past Presidents after-dinner event at Annual Pennsylvania Conference.**

PA TAX ELIMINATION BOOSTS SIKORSKY GLOBAL HELICOPTER JOB GROWTH

Sikorsky Global Helicopter Corporation continues to grow and add personnel in Chester County, Pa. Sikorsky—a long-time member of the Aviation Council—is the world leader in commercial and military helicopters.

The company's current employment has gone from 750 to 1,209 people since 2008. Much of the recent growth is attributed to the elimination of helicopter sales and use taxes in the commonwealth.

Since 2004, the Aviation Council has been advocating to eliminate sales and use taxes on aircraft in Pennsylvania. In 2008, the total taxes collected on fixed-wing and

helicopter parts, maintenance and repairs totaled a mere \$1.3M.

More PA aerospace jobs ahead

According to **Bob Rockmaker**, executive director of the Council, "This small amount of revenue collected for a twelve-month period is a clear indicator that the aircraft service segment of aviation is virtually nonexistent in the commonwealth. Collectively, we need to aggressively pursue the aviation manufacturing and service sectors.

"The jobs created by the aerospace industry can not be substituted by the Internet. Aircraft and their related

components need to be repaired and/or replaced by skilled workers. The aircraft and aerospace service industry creates good, family-sustaining jobs with annual wages averaging \$50,000."

On August 18, the Council, represented by Bob Rockmaker, testified at the Senate Transportation Hearings in Harrisburg. The Council expressed deep appreciation to Senators **John Rafferty** and **J. Barry Stout**, the full Transportation Committee, the House and Senate leadership, along with **Governor Rendell**, for recognizing the barrier to aviation trade in the commonwealth.

Aviation received a boost in the helicopter segment in the fall of 2009 when helicopter sales and use



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council

mission statement

To represent the Pennsylvania aviation community in matters involving government and private sector interests; to improve aviation in partnership with the Commonwealth and the Federal government; and to increase public awareness of aviation.



a word

from the president

Almost two years have elapsed since I was elected president of the Aviation Council. It seems like it was just yesterday. We have continued to increase our outreach to other departments of state government including the Department of Economic Development (DCED). Our executive director, Bob Rockmaker, testified on our behalf at transportation hearings both in the state house and senate. Our efforts on Aviation Advocacy Day were productive in getting the word out about our issues in Pennsylvania and finding new allies.

I want to thank our board of directors for their support. We all work as volunteers in support of our industry.

The Council board is committed to building the Pennsylvania aviation and aerospace platform to save and create new family-sustaining jobs in the commonwealth. You will note the increased use of the word *aerospace* in our newsletters and in our communications as we view all segments of these industries to be part of our mission. We need to be vigilant. This past June, there was a Mexican Aviation Conference held in Philadelphia with the goal of attracting more aviation business off shore.

The Council was successful in getting the sales and use taxes on helicopters removed. This has already had a positive impact on the helicopter sector in Pennsylvania. (*See page one.*) We continue to push to get fixed-wing aircraft included for the tax relief to help create more jobs in the commonwealth.

I would like to bring special attention and thanks to State Representatives John Siptroth, Joe Markosek and Rick Geist along with State Senators John Rafferty and J. Barry Stout for their continued support. Please do not forget them if you are in one of their districts.

Please make the effort to reach out and let your local state representatives know about our issues. As a council, we are doing the heavy lifting and we need your support to help show them how important our industry is to saving and creating jobs.

This is your association. Get involved. Please spread the word of our organization. Pass along your Council newsletter so others can read it.

We hope to see everyone at the Pennsylvania Aviation & Aerospace Conference later this September when we will celebrate the Council's 50th Anniversary.

Everitt B. duPont
President, Aviation Council of Pennsylvania

KEEP IN TOUCH. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact me at: 610-268-2048 or everitt@n57.com

AIR CARGO GROWTH AT PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL



left: A Southern Air Boeing 747 aircraft on the ramp at PIT.

below: Ground handlers off load palletized freight from a Boeing 747.



Pittsburgh International Airport (PIT), which is operated by the **Allegheny County Airport Authority**, has been evolving their air cargo business model over the past 24 months.

Bob Miller has been working as a liaison with the air service development department to help expand and attract new air cargo lift into PIT. The airport has four runways, the longest—11,500 feet in length—allows the largest commercial aircraft to both land and take-off.

PIT is unique for the air cargo side of the aviation industry. The air field with long runways—coupled with good ground access by rail, land and sea—make the airport a diamond in the rough that will become more polished as the world discovers this gem.

PIT handles the big ones

This August, the **Boeing Aircraft Company** conducted a test flight of their new air cargo Boeing 747-800 model. The aircraft flew for the first time for several hours with one million pounds of cargo weight to simulate the actual flight mode capabilities of the aircraft.

As the world's economy continues to become more global in nature, large air cargo aircraft will become even more popular.

The strongest asset that favors PIT is the rapid aircraft turn around time. According to Miller, PIT airport ground handlers can off load a Boeing 747 from Asia or South America and have the products delivered up to 500 miles from the airport within

“PIT airport ground handlers can off load a Boeing 747 from Asia or South America and have the products delivered up to 500 miles from the airport within eight hours.”

eight hours. These delivery times are not possible when freight is flown into other international airports.

Since January 1, 2010, PIT has handled twenty Boeing 747 freighters from Asia which have carried inbound 2.4M pounds of freight. Miller reports that customers have been pleased with the delivery times and the excellent customer centrics that come with the service.

Miller reports that the goal is to continue working with Wings Logistics, UTI, and Air Ground Xpress to keep the international cargo charters ongoing.

For 2011, PIT would like to see twice-per-week flights from Asia.

The development of this business model at PIT will pay long-term dividends for the airport, the region and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Air cargo is an economic development tool which can create both direct and indirect jobs.

PIT occupies more than 12,900 acres making it the fourth-largest airport by land area owned in the United States (behind Denver, Dallas-Fort Worth, and Orlando International Airports). Both Chicago's O'Hare and Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson could comfortably fit within the airport's land area.

PIT has been recognized for its quality in meeting travelers' needs. **OAG Worldwide** listed the facility on its short list of the world's best airports for four consecutive years, while **JD Power and Associates** named PIT among the top five airports in its two most recent customer satisfaction surveys. ✈



Guests mingle at the 75th anniversary reception of the Lancaster Airport.

“The new Lancaster Municipal Airport was dedicated on August 17, 1935, and was considered one of the finest in the east.”

known as the Citizen’s Airport Committee—was formed. They felt the time was right for a municipally-owned airport. Knowing Federal War Relief Act funds were available, and anticipating that construction of the airport might help with the local unemployment problem, the committee agreed to move forward.

With the city and county providing the local funds necessary to obtain federal and state grants, one hundred and eighty-one acres of farmland south of Lititz was purchased. Then on March 15, 1934, with 1,000 people in attendance, ground was broken.

While the airport on the Manheim Pike remained in operation, the new Lancaster Municipal Airport was dedicated on August 17, 1935, and was considered one of the finest in the east. The U.S. Bureau of Commerce Directory issued January 1, 1936, described the airport as having “beacon boundary, approach, and obstruction lights... two hard-surface runways each 3,000 feet long and a 3,200-foot sod strip... facilities for servicing day and night.” At the time, only Pittsburgh-Allegheny Airport had been listed as having both hard-surface runways for both day and night operations. ✈

LANCASTER AIRPORT REVISITS EARLY YEARS DURING 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On August 25, the Lancaster Airport hosted a reception of more than 150 guests in celebration of its 75th anniversary. Lancaster Airport Authority Board of Directors Chairman **Marvin E. Miller Jr.** presided over the evening’s festivities during which Pennsylvania Senator **Lloyd K. Smucker**, Representative **John C. Bear**, and U.S. Congressman **Joseph R. Pitts**, presented citations to the Lancaster Airport in recognition of its service to the community over the past three-quarters of a century.

The airport’s 75-year history was recounted through photographs displayed throughout the terminal and by a recently restored DC3 that graced the ramp—the same model aircraft which flew commercially from Lancaster in its early years.

The original Lancaster Airport was privately owned. Located in Lancaster on the Manheim Pike, it was the only real airport in Lancaster County during the early 1930s. In 1933, the Lancaster Joint Aviation Committee—popularly



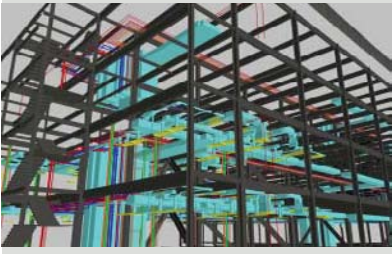
A glistening restored DC3 on display during Lancaster Airport 75th anniversary celebration.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Aviation Council board of directors extends a special welcome to the following persons who have recently joined the Council. We appreciate your support and look forward to your participation in our activities and on our committees.

Since June 2010

DAVID MERKEL, pilot

THOMAS C. RUSSELL, pilot

TOM HAWES, APPI Energy

STEVE MYKULYN, Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Int'l Airport

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To join the Aviation Council or for additional information on membership, please call 610-797-6911 or visit us at www.acpfly.com

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Many Aviation Council members have found the **ADD-ON COWORKER** membership is a great way to support aviation and at the same time let their staff stay up-to-date on the latest aviation happenings in Pennsylvania.

Each coworker will stay connected to the industry and the Council. Still only \$50 per person. Call our office at 610-797-6911 or visit us at www.acpfly.com

MARK PASARRO REMEMBERED

History has and will always play an important role in all organizations, no matter what size or type. **Mark Passaro** of Camp Hill was the Aviation Council's first paid executive director. Mark passed away at age 85 on June 10, 2010, at Harrisburg Hospital.

Mark was a 1942 graduate of Allentown (Pa.) High School and a WW II Army veteran. He was a retired partner from the former W&M Printing Company, Mechanicsburg, Pa. Mark earned his private pilots license at age 57. Mark served as executive director from 1968-1972. ✈️



PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION ADVOCACY DAY SPONSORS

The **Eighth Annual Pennsylvania Aviation & Aerospace Advocacy Day** was held in Harrisburg on June 9, 2010. The Aviation Council would like to thank all of the sponsors who helped make 2010's event a success. Taking the time and making the investment to come to Harrisburg was well worth it. Telling the aviation story is critical to the long term health of the aviation and aerospace industry in Pennsylvania.

Thank you to our 2010 sponsors:

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AIRPORT PAVEMENTS: ONLINE

American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) is offering a web-based program specially designed for airport owners and owners' representatives, consultants, contractors, and others with an interest in concrete pavement design for airports. Training will be held in three-hour blocks on three Thursdays in October and will be taught by **Gary L. Mitchell, P.E.**, director of Airports & Pavement Technology, along with noted authorities from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the airport design community. The online sessions, which begin at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern), are:

Oct 5 — **Pavement Design Procedures and Software**

Oct 12 — **Details for Construction**

Oct 19 — **Research & Development Update**

The program will include discussions about the FAA's AC150/5320-6E FAARFIELD design procedure; best practices for airfield construction; FAA's Engineering Brief Number 70, which outlines a protocol for developing mixtures that are resistant to degradation in the presence of anti-icing agents (potassium acetate); materials-related distresses; fly ash; and new research on the impacts of dirty aggregates.

Airport Pavements: Online is a modular course that allow you to participate in one, two, or all three of these self-contained training sessions. A copy of **AirPave** software is included with this package. The fee for two or three sessions is \$300 for ACPA members and government employees and \$450 for non-members. For a single session, fees are half of those noted above. For a copy of the registration program, visit www.pavement.com. If you have questions, the contact person is Gary L. Mitchell, P.E., director of Airports & Pavement Technology, 704-904-9459, gmitchell@acpa.org. ✈️

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2010 marks the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania's 50th year "serving Pennsylvania aviation." Our milestone anniversary celebration will culminate at 2010's Aviation & Aerospace Conference at the beautiful Inn at Pocono Manor. Don't miss the festivities or the great lineup of sessions in store for attendees. Get a jumpstart on the next 50 years for aerospace in Pennsylvania. Details to follow in the coming months.

pa tax from page 1

taxes were eliminated. During the August 18 hearings, Senator **John Rafferty**, chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee, acknowledged the new growth in aerospace in his district since helicopter sales and use taxes were removed in October 2009.

Opening Pennsylvania for aviation and aerospace service firms will create many new, good-paying, family-sustaining jobs. These new firms will create both a direct and indirect economic impact for years to come in communities across the commonwealth. ✈

PA AVIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Pennsylvania Aviation Advisory Committee meets several times throughout the year. Meetings are open to the public and are held from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm in the Commonwealth Keystone Building (Conference Room 8N1), 400 North Street, Harrisburg. Last meeting in 2010:

November 3

For more information, or to be added to the Committee's email list, contact **Patrice Bratcher** at 717-783-2026 or pbratcher@state.pa.us

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