

GEORGIA AIRPORT ADVOCATE



A Periodic Newsletter of the GEORGIA AIRPORTS ASSOCIATION

Winter 2007

Common Sense Revisited

by Lee Rimmel, AAE; Airport Director, PDK, ATL

If you have your aviation insurance with AVEMCO, you recently received a pamphlet entitled "Aviators' Model Code of Conduct." The pamphlet is divided into seven sections, and each section contains "principles" and sample recommended practices. I must admit that when I first glanced at the pamphlet's title I thought I was going to hear about "air rage" or the "hurry-up / get-the-devil-out-of-my-way / why-are-you-so-slow (or stupid!)" admonitions about not bringing onto the airport and into the cockpit those extraordinary bad and discourteous habits that many of us routinely display on our nation's highways and byways. But, AVEMCO did not rub our noses in that. AVEMCO took the high road and basically asks that we do those things on the airport and in the air that real flying professionals do every day of their lives.

While Section IV, Security, of the pamphlet, says "pilots should," this section is really applicable to airports and their tenants as well:

1. Seek to maintain the security of all persons and property *associated with their aviation activities* (emphasis added);
2. Remain vigilant; immediately report suspicious, reckless or illegal activities;
3. Secure aircraft to prevent unauthorized use; and,
4. Avoid special-use airspace except when approved or in an emergency.

I know that special-use airspace includes: prohibited, restricted, warning areas, MOAs, alert areas, and controlled firing areas. However, it is really only since 9/11 that "special-use airspace" of all types is related to overall aviation security. Such are the signs of the times.

Finally, the recommended practices are those that should now be thoroughly grounded in our daily flying and operational lives:

1. Check for any TFRs along the route of flight;
2. Use a transponder with altitude encoding;
3. Use additional or enhanced locks or other anti-theft devices;
4. Confirm that ramp access points are closed behind you;
5. Be familiar with and use the local or AOPA Airport Watch program;
6. Use VFR flight following;
7. Avoid deviating from an active IFR or VFR flight plan; and,
8. Consider flying IFR (if rated) whenever practicable.

All the above represent good flying and aviation practices used by professionals both on the airports and pilots side. Its always time for a brush-up and a revisit of some tried and true methods of operation. ✈️

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MISSION STATEMENT

"To provide, develop and expand a safe and efficient airports system to meet the future economic growth of Georgia through the full implementation of the State Aviation System Plan."

Aviation Programs began distribution of the new 2007-2008 State Aeronautical Chart in early February. The new chart recognizes "100 years of Georgia Aviation" featuring many historical aviation photos. Airports statewide should receive a supply of the charts. For more copies, contact Tom Carr at (404) 651-5208.



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President's Message

By Mike Van Wie

Greetings Members and Friends of Georgia Airports Association,

House Resolution 48 has been introduced in the Georgia Legislative Session by Representative Carl Rogers, Vice Chairman of Appropriations for Economic Development. As many of you know, the aviation industry in Georgia annually contributes in excess of \$100 million to the state coffers by way of fuel taxes, taxes on aviation goods and services, aircraft sales taxes, and personal property taxes. Currently taxes on aviation fuels, approximately \$35 million, are put into the state's general fund and the legislature appropriates approximately \$6 million annually to the Georgia Aviation Programs Office. The \$6 million that is presently being appropriated to airport projects falls well short of what is needed to meet the present maintenance needs, much less capital improvements and expansion projects. **HR 48** proposes to amend the Georgia Constitution so that taxes collected on jet fuel and aviation gasoline will be appropriated to activities incident to providing and maintaining an adequate system of public-use airports.

Your input is needed now! Because the next general election is two years away many constitutional amendments will be deferred to the next session of legislature. This would severely limit GAA's ability to adequately market **HR 48** to the general public. Please contact your representatives, senator, and the Governor's office; voice your support and encourage them to pass **HR 48** this legislative session. Our border states are funding their airports at a much higher level. This will eventually result in Georgia losing business opportunities to these states. To remain competitive, Georgia must provide an adequate and well-maintained system of airports capable of servicing today's general aviation fleet. **HR 48** is vital to the economic prosperity of Georgia as well as our airports.

Conference update – Preparations are well underway for the 2007 Conference. The conference will be held **October 24 through October 26** at the beautiful Augusta Marriott and Suites Hotel and Conference Center. My primary focus for this year's conference will be providing you with speakers on the topics that YOU feel would be most beneficial. Therefore, send me an email at mvanwie@co.dekalb.ga.us on a topic you'd like to see discussed. Although not required, if you can recommend a speaker that would be great also. Additional information will be posted on our website soon and I expect to mail registration packets the first of March. Join us for education, entertainment, recreation, and **JUST PLANE FUN**.

Membership Directory – The premier issue of our membership directory will be mailed the first of April. Considering it is our first “real” directory, advertising sales went better than expected. I'm sure you'll be impressed with the quality and content. Thanks to all who stepped up and helped with this project. ✈️

News and Announcements

In December the **Thomasville Municipal Airport** commissioned its new ILS system, and a new AWOS-IIPT was recently commissioned at Calhoun's **Tom B. David Airport**.

On February 9, city leaders dedicated their new 3600 sq.-ft. general aviation terminal building at the **Louisville Municipal Airport**, constructed with a \$500,000 grant from the OneGeorgia Authority's Equity Fund.

The **Fulton County Airport-Brown Field** recently remodeled the interior of its terminal building and installed new entrance signs in anticipation of hosting the static aircraft display for the National Business Aviation Association's (NBAA) annual conference to be held this October in Atlanta.

The **Homerville Airport** is finishing its new terminal building, which is being constructed with city forces.

Site preparation on Georgia's newest airport, **Paulding County Regional**, proceeds on schedule with an anticipated opening date in 2008. ✈️



Around the State . . .

Statewide Airport Pavement Management Study Update

The Georgia Department of Transportation's (GDOT) Aviation Programs, with funding assistance from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), has initiated an update to its Statewide Airport Pavement Management Study.

This study will update the airfield pavement database for all 94 of Georgia's publicly owned general aviation airports and 8 commercial service airports. The study will include the collection of pavement history, the evaluation of current pavement condition, and the establishment of a 5-year pavement maintenance schedule with estimated costs for each airport.

This study will provide the means to help each individual airport economically prolong the life of their airport pavements. It also offers the GDOT and FAA the necessary information to forecast and budget statewide needs, prioritize projects, and help protect its multi-billion dollar investment in our statewide system of public airports.

February 2008 is the targeted completion date for the study. At the conclusion of the study, each airport will receive an individual report containing a summary of their pavement conditions and recommendations for timely maintenance and rehabilitation (M&R). In addition, each airport will receive an electronic file containing their airport pavement database for future use.

GDOT has awarded a contract to the engineering firm of Applied Pavement Technology, Inc. (APTech), assisted by AVCON and Wilbur Smith Associates, to conduct the statewide airport pavement management study. For additional information on Georgia's Statewide Airport Pavement Management Study, contact Carol Comer, GDOT-Aviation Programs at (404) 651-5207.

Pavement Evaluation Training to be Held March 15th

The GDOT and FAA, with assistance from Applied Pavement Technology, will present a one-day Airfield Pavement Evaluation Training Course, March 15, 2007. This course will provide airport sponsors detailed information on distress identification and the mechanisms of deterioration for asphalt and concrete surfaced pavements. The causes of different distresses and, most importantly, what can be done to prevent or repair them will be covered. In addition, Pavement Condition Index (PCI) survey and evaluation techniques, as well as the role of PCI in pavement management, will be discussed.

This training course is held in conjunction with Georgia's statewide **Airfield Pavement Management Study Update** and offers an opportunity to learn first-hand the procedures to be used to evaluate the 102 airports in this study. Airfield site evaluations by Applied Pavement Technology engineers will begin in March, making this very timely.

This free course is open to all airport owners and staff

and will be held at GDOT's Area Office in Macon, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Course materials will be provided, and lunch will be available on-site in the Training Center's cafeteria. Pre-registration is required, (*see registration form enclosed with this newsletter*). Please include name, title, airport, email address, and telephone number. For more information, contact Alan Hood, GDOT-Aviation Programs at (404) 463-0975. **Deadline for registration is March 7, 2007.**

AIRGeorgia Workshop – March 29th

The OneGeorgia Authority and GDOT-Aviation Programs will host an AIRGeorgia workshop on March 29, 2007 in Dublin. The workshop will be held at the Business and Industry Center on the campus of the Heart of Georgia Technical College from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Attendees will be briefed by OneGeorgia

on the AIRGeorgia program's eligibility requirements, rules and regulations and application process. Aviation Programs will discuss the steps necessary to ready an airport project prior to an AIRGeorgia application and general assistance available from their office. Ample time will be set aside for questions.

Email Carol Comer at carol.comer@dot.state.ga.us to register. Attendees will be on their own for lunch in the

local area. For directions, go to http://www.heartofgatech.edu/college_profile/ndrive_dir.htm.

\$8 million in AIRGeorgia Awards Announced

At a meeting of the OneGeorgia Authority in Warm Springs on January 30, 2007 Governor Perdue announced five AIRGeorgia awards totaling \$8,517,812.

Recipients included the **Franklin-Hart County Airport Authority**, awarded \$898,200 for a 1500' runway extension; the **City of Camilla**, awarded \$1,161,398 for a 1000' runway extension; **Peach County**, awarded \$1,098,575 for the installation of an Instrument Landing System (ILS); the **Metter-Candler County Airport Authority**, awarded \$2,222,602 for a 1400' runway extension; and the **City of Cochran**, awarded \$3,137,037 for the construction of a replacement runway. Additionally, the **Thomson-McDuffie County Airport** received a OneGeorgia Equity Loan Award in the amount of \$500,000 for the construction of two nine-bay T-hangars.

Said Governor Perdue, "Making these first awards in this program is exciting, and I look forward to this program continuing to benefit our rural communities."

GDOT, Ware Co. Test New Pavement Rehab Technique

GDOT-Aviation Programs recently partnered with Ware County on the first formal Full Depth Reclamation (FDR) project on an airport in Georgia. The Waycross-Ware County

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"These airport enhancements will make these communities more competitive. Making these first awards in this program is exciting, and I look forward to this program continuing to benefit our rural communities."

- Governor Sonny Perdue on \$8 million in AIRGeorgia Awards

Around the State ... *(Continued from page 3)*

Airport's Runway 5/23, a 5000' x 150' secondary runway, was completed reconstructed using the FDR process. The runway, originally built in the 1930s, was badly oxidized with severe block and longitudinal cracking.

Based on testing performed by GDOT's Forest Park Labs it was determined the correct combination of materials the design consisted of milling off the top two inches of asphalt and replacing it with two inches of select clay material.

The clay material, remaining 2" of asphalt and six inches of soil cement base was then pulverized and blended together. Cement was then spread over the blended material and a second mixing of the material was performed.

The cement treated material was then laid to grade and compacted forming the new Full Depth Recycled base. Two inches of 12.5mm SuperPave asphaltic concrete was then placed as the new wearing surface.

As a result of the Full Depth Reclamation process, existing cracks from the base and asphalt layers have been eliminated so they will not reflect through the new asphalt surface.

GDOT is optimistic that this "new" runway will see many years of service before requiring maintenance. GDOT's Aviation Programs and Materials & Research personnel will continue to monitor the project and determine the benefit of this procedure as compared to typical overlays.

The total cost of the project was \$1,143,340, of which GDOT participated in 75% (\$875,505) of the cost and Ware County at 25% (\$285,835). Ware County also provided in-kind services by providing clay material and reconstructing and grassing the runway shoulders. The project was constructed by Dixie Roadbuilders, with Littlefield Construction and The Miller Group as sub-contractors. ✈️



Contractors work at the Waycross-Ware County Airport to prepare the reclaimed base and existing surface course on Runway 5/23 for paving.

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