

AVIATION & AEROSPACE

"Metro Orlando offers many strengths to the aviation and aerospace industry -- an abundance of land available adjacent to runways for hangars, maintenance, air cargo, and other aviation related facilities; ample supply of power and recycled water capabilities for manufacturing facilities; and a world-class simulation and training cluster. This industry will only continue to grow here."

— Jim Laria, Aviation Consultant

The aviation and aerospace sector in Metro Orlando has developed over the past 60 years from a collection of military installations and small airstrips to become a hub for global commercial air travel, advanced flight training, air defense projects and space exploration.

Aviation in the region is anchored by the first-rate Orlando International Airport. One of the top largest airports in the world, Orlando International Airport is frequently cited as a key advantage to companies doing business in Metro Orlando. With 50 airlines, scheduled service to more than 100 domestic and international destinations and thriving air cargo operations, companies across a diverse range of industries can easily transport both people and goods to virtually anywhere in the world from Orlando International Airport.

Metro Orlando is also served by Orlando Sanford International Airport, a smaller, but fast-growing facility, as well as a number of well-regarded regional airports. Located less than an hour from the renowned NASA launch facilities at Kennedy Space Center, Metro Orlando is a prime location for the region's aviation and aerospace industry.

Defense contract powerhouse Lockheed Martin is a stronghold in the region, earning billions of dollars in government and commercial contracts for a host of projects from missile and rocket systems to jet fighters. Smaller companies in the region often capture lucrative government subcontracts, along with other major contractors that have a Florida presence such as The Boeing Co. and Harris Corporation.

With many crossover applications, the sector benefits from a region firmly designated as the world's capital for modeling, simulation and training. Organizations in the region employ simulation technology in such applications as flight training for commercial and private pilots and air traffic management.

The sector enjoys strong support from public and private organizations that are dedicated to advancing the industry locally. Additionally, community educational institutions develop programs specifically geared toward enhancing the quality of the workforce available to aviation and aerospace businesses.

Overview and History

The aviation and aerospace industry in Metro Orlando emerged decades ago dating back to the World War II era when military air bases occupied what are now international and regional commercial airports. Even before that time, flight training had boomed in the region because of its favorable year round climate, abundance of sparsely populated land and access to fuel through its proximity to shipping ports.

Metro Orlando, a top global tourist destination, has two well-regarded international airports, Orlando International Airport and Orlando Sanford International. Orlando International Airport — built in 1970 at the site of the former McCoy Airforce Base — has grown into one of the nation's busiest airports and is the third largest in land area with nearly 15,000 acres. Orlando Sanford International is considered among the fastest growing airports in the country.

Several regional airports also serve Metro Orlando. Supporting aviation in the community are aircraft maintenance firms, FBOs and ground services companies. International and domestic air cargo is a lucrative segment in the region and is bolstered by Metro Orlando's central access to air, land, sea and space transportation infrastructure.

In 1962, what is now Kennedy Space Center (KSC) originated as a NASA Launch Operation Center at Cape Canaveral located less than an hour from Metro Orlando. In addition to space exploration sponsored by the U.S. government, the facility is also the launching pad for commercial satellites and rockets for companies worldwide. Local companies such as defense contractor Lockheed Martin benefit from the region's proximity to KSC, as well as military installations, by receiving billions of dollars in government contracts.

The sector is further enhanced by the region's thriving modeling, simulation and training cluster, which offers valuable tools for such purposes as training pilots and astronauts and modeling concepts for future airspace system management. Metro Orlando is considered the simulation capital of the world, which ensures the local aviation and aerospace industry will have continual access to leading edge modeling, simulation and training technology.

The aviation and aerospace sector in Metro Orlando is expected to continue expanding in concert with an increase in visitors to the region, cargo shipments and space exploration activities. With strong support of local and state government, academia and industry trade associations, the sector is positioned for success now and into the future.

Marketplace

The multi-faceted aviation and aerospace sector in Metro Orlando comprises international and regional airports, aircraft and ground support firms and numerous flight training schools. It also encompasses companies providing products and services for both private and governmental aviation and aerospace applications.

Between 1990 and 2010, the number of air passengers in Florida is expected to increase 128 percent, with Metro Orlando's airports playing a key role. The prominent Orlando International Airport is among the top 100 airports in the world in terms of passenger volume and air cargo shipment. Complementing Orlando International Airport is the Orlando Sanford International Airport, which was ranked as the fastest growing North American airport in 2000 and 2001 among airports with one million or more annual passengers.

In addition to two international airports, there are several regional airports. Backing these facilities are a number of FBOs, aviation maintenance firms and ground handling companies. Signature Air Services, one of the largest flight support operations in the world, is headquartered in Orlando. Aviation businesses in the region supply a range of vital services including fueling, baggage handling, repairs, cargo handling and jetway maintenance. Ample land is available at Metro Orlando airports for ancillary aviation services, along with the power and water resources needed to run their varied operations.

Orlando International Airport's Foreign Trade Zone is located in one of the only quadramodal transportation hubs in the world, offering access to virtually all global destinations. Conducting international business is simplified through the region's superior network of air routes, interstate highways, rail systems, deep water ports and space transportation through nearby launch facilities at the Kennedy Space Center.

The U.S. Department of Defense has awarded billions of dollars in contracts to local companies for development of such projects as fighter jets, targeting systems, military satellite communications and ground-based missile systems. Lockheed Martin is the largest aerospace company in the region, employing 7,300 workers in Central Florida. Its Missiles and Fire Control division develops, manufactures and integrates air defense and advanced product solutions and systems for U.S. and international armed forces. The company is currently under contract to NASA's Johnson Space Center to provide systems design, development, maintenance, logistics and training services in support of the Shuttle Training Aircraft, which provides a high-fidelity simulation of a space shuttle landing for astronaut training.

Many local firms are awarded sub-contracts from Lockheed Martin, as well as the Boeing Co., which is located just outside Metro Orlando and is the largest aviation/aerospace company in the world. Boeing recently selected Orlando-based Advanced Laser Systems Technology, Inc. to develop a laser rangefinder for the Orbital Express space operations architecture program. Metro Orlando's burgeoning plastics industry also contributes components for use in the aviation and aerospace industry. The use of lightweight plastic materials is common due to their flexibility, sturdiness and ability to withstand high temperatures.

Workforce

Metro Orlando's young, technically-skilled workforce greatly contributes to the success of the aviation and aerospace sector. The region's central location within the state's High Tech Corridor has led to creation of valuable, advanced education and vocational training programs that boost the quality of the prospective employee pool.

Collaboration between private industry and educational institutions has led to the development of valuable training programs and internships that further strengthen the workforce available to businesses engaged in aviation and aerospace activities. The University of Central Florida's College of Engineering and Science (CECS) offers superior programs to support the industry, such as aerospace engineering, computer science and computer engineering.

Approximately 80 percent of CECS students gain job-related experience before graduating, and more than 75 percent of graduates remain in Florida five years or more after completing their education. On average, CECS annually graduates nearly 1,000 engineers and computer scientists with a significant percentage taking jobs in the state.

The region's community colleges also add to the quality of the workforce with technology and engineering courses. Notably, Valencia Community College maintains an associate of science degree program with an emphasis on micro-electronic manufacturing. Additionally, magnet programs in the field are offered at the elementary and high school levels. With job shadowing and internship opportunities, these programs provide young students with early exposure to careers in this dynamic industry.

An abundance of quality training programs for both commercial and general aviation is available in the region. A combination of companies with simulation training bays and flight safety concentrations provide a wealth of instruction opportunities. Plus, the region's attractive vacation amenities make it a great destination for trainers and their families.

Education

Metro Orlando academia encompasses a wealth of undergraduate and post-graduate level educational and research programs that augment the employee base available specifically to the aviation and aerospace sector. The region is also home to a number of well-regarded flight training schools, many of which employ leading edge simulation tools as a safe, cost-effective method to train pilots. Situated in the heart of Florida's High Tech Corridor, academic institutions in Metro Orlando concentrate heavily on computer science and engineering studies, which further strengthens the local employee pool.

The University of Central Florida (UCF), one of the nation's leading metropolitan research institutions, offers a robust curriculum largely designed to meet the workforce needs of local industries. Following are samplings of programs and research centers offered by UCF that benefit the aviation and aerospace sector:

- The Center For Applied Human Factors in Aviation (CAHFA), established in 1990, is a research consortium of UCF and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. CAHFA focuses on enhancing safety in the nation's airspace system through applied human factors research, systems design, and training strategies. UCF provides CAHFA with the multidisciplinary capabilities of a major university, including academic strengths in applied psychology and engineering. Embry-Riddle, with campuses in Daytona Beach and Prescott, Arizona, provides CAHFA with research and testing facilities, including the Center for Aviation/Aerospace Research and the Airway Science Simulation Laboratory.
- The College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) offers Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees in the areas of computer engineering, electrical engineering and computer science. The computer science Doctoral program ranks among the top 10 in the nation, according to the National Association of Graduate and Professional Studies.

CECS is the top research-funded college at UCF, with awards exceeding \$14 million. The college is engaged in nearly 200 funded research projects sponsored by industrial groups and local, state and federal agencies. Notably, CECS received one of 14 awards from the National Science Foundation to fund student research in computer vision and semiconductors. CECS professors are involved in active research that often involves collaboration among faculty members, graduate students and post-doctoral researchers and visitors.

- The Engineering Technology Program educates students to become professional technologists who meet the current needs of industry. The program is intended to prepare graduates for employment as Systems Engineers, Process Analysts, Project Engineers, Calibration Engineers and Programmers. Engineering Technology focuses on the application of engineering theories for industries such as manufacturing, production and technical analysis.
- The Mechanical, Materials and Aerospace Engineering Program is designed to provide a broadly-based foundation in aeronautics and astronautics, including topics such as aerodynamics, propulsion, aerospace structures and materials, and flight dynamics, control and performance. The program is intended to prepare graduates for employment as engineers in aerospace or allied disciplines, and for graduate study in engineering, or business, or allied areas. Among the many career opportunities afforded by this course of study are design and development of aircraft, missiles and spacecraft systems.
- Florida Space Institute (formerly Space Education and Research Center) was formed in March 1990 in response to the growing demand for excellence in space-related research. The primary functions of this multi-disciplinary center are to conduct research consistent with the needs of the space community, to aid in the commercialization of the space industry, and to positively impact math and science education at all levels. FSI focuses on three areas of research: launch sciences, earth system sciences, and advanced educational technology.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Orlando Metro Campus is a great fit for learners seeking to further their careers in business, management and aeronautics, and it has been ranked 13th in the Southern Masters-level by the 2007 *U.S. News and World Report*. Established in 1997, the Orlando campus offers an Associate and Bachelor in Professional Aeronautics and Technical Management and the Master of Science; in Business Administration in Aviation; Management; and Aeronautical Science. Additionally, there are seven Undergraduate Certificate of Completions and six Graduates, with all courses being fully accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Metro Orlando also boasts well-regarded community colleges that provide engineering and computer science programs. Valencia Community College offers an Associate's degree in Electronics Engineering Technology with specialization in Electronics Engineering, Microelectronics Manufacturing and Applied Science.

Valencia's Electronics Engineering Technology program is designed to produce highly-skilled technicians capable of assisting in the design, production, operation and servicing of electronic and microelectronic systems and equipment. The college is a Center of Electronics Emphasis in the Florida system and is equipped with special test equipment and advanced laboratories, which provide the latest real-world experience.

Valencia also offers an Associate's degree in computer programming and analysis. The program is designed for students who wish to develop skills in computer business applications, computer programming, computer operations and management, database administration and systems analysis.

Seminole State College of Florida offers an Associate's degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. The two-year program is expected to prepare highly motivated students for entry into the electronics field. Emphasis is placed on the analytical and practical approaches to problem solving using the latest in electronic and microprocessor technology. Students in this program apply electrical and electronic theory and related knowledge to design, build, test, assemble, install, repair, and modify developmental, experimental, or production electrical equipment in a variety of industries.

The computer programming and analysis programs at SSC combine programming, system design, system analysis, database, and networking courses to provide a well rounded curriculum with the depth necessary to prepare you for a position as a programmer, programmer/analyst, system analyst, technical support analyst, or database analyst. SSC offers two two-year programs leading to an Associate of Science degree and one one-year program leading to a technical certificate.

Aviation and aerospace magnet programs have also been established at the elementary and high school levels to instill in young students an interest in the industry. Students interact with industry professionals, make on-site facility visits and participate in hands-on activities and experiments. These valuable programs are largely supported by institutions such as UCF, along with private industry, and provide opportunities for job shadowing and internships.

Flight Training Schools

Metro Orlando comprises some of the world's most advanced flight training schools. Following is a sampling of schools in the region:

Air Orlando Aviation

Air Orlando Aviation was formed in 1984 with one airplane and a desire to teach people how to fly that airplane. Through the years, the company has grown to comprise one of the largest and newest aviation fleets in the Southeast. Air Orlando's training and rental fleet include airplanes and helicopters.

Avion Air Academy

Avion Air Academy has several options for pilot training including recreational flying, instruction or pursuit of a "fast track" program to the airlines. The company covers instruction for private pilot training, instrument rating, certified instructor, multi-engine rating, CFI Instrument, first officer program, business jet training and emergency maneuvering.

Delta Connection Academy

Delta Connection Academy, formerly Comair Academy, has produced more FAA-certified pilots in the past four years than any other flight school in the world. With a fleet of more than 110 aircraft, Delta Connection Academy has trained students from 86 different countries and has placed pilots with 26 airlines. The academy recently expanded its Learning Center facilities at its main campus at Sanford/Orlando International Airport. This includes the addition of new Frasca 141 and 142 aircraft simulators and a jet-transition simulator to prepare students for regional jet operations.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Embry-Riddle features state-of-the-art facilities, including the 75,000-square-foot Gill Robb Wilson Aviation Technology Center, which houses classrooms, single and multi-engine simulators, a weather room and dispatch headquarters. Flight instruction is provided in Embry-Riddle's fleet of Cessna 172s, the multi-engine Piper Seminole aircraft, and a full range of single-engine, multi-engine, and turbine simulators. Airline-specific training is delivered in an advanced flight simulation facility. The new "high bay" simulation center houses an FAA Level-D full-motion Beech 1900D simulator produced by FlightSafety International.

Embry Riddle's Air Traffic Management Research Laboratory allows researchers and students using sophisticated software to simulate airspace and airport systems and solve problems relating to runway incursions, reducing in-flight fuel costs, and streamlining ground operations.

The Samuel Goldman Aviation Maintenance Technology Center is the home for instruction in the maintenance and repair of fixed-wing and helicopter airframes, powerplants (reciprocating and turbine), and avionics. This four-building complex contains laboratories and classrooms equipped with the most modern tools to provide students with instruction in maintenance theory and hands-on techniques.

Laboratories with state-of-the-art computers help aviation maintenance technology students enter the more complex realm of a constantly evolving industry. The Avionics Lab repair stations (FAA-certified repair station 707-50) simulate the avionics environment that graduates will encounter in the workplace. Engine test cells let students test the effectiveness of their repairs. The advanced reciprocating engine lab (FAA-certified repair station NX42404M) overhauls engines for the Embry-Riddle fleet.

FlightSafety International

FlightSafety is among the nation's foremost aviation training organizations, with centers throughout the world. The company provides training services for more than 75,000 pilots and aviation personnel each year, including pilots of more than 40 Head-of-State flight operations. Scope of training services include business aviation, regional airline, private pilot, military and government. FlightSafety International's Orlando learning center features state-of-the-art FAA Level "D" certification full-flight simulators.

JetBlue University

JetBlue University is responsible for the orientation and training of all employees at JetBlue Airways. They have developed a number of innovative programs that leverage today's technology to continuously, and cost-effectively, distribute learning across the organization. The university has also created a leadership development program unique to the aviation industry that provides an exceptional set of tools for all JetBlue leaders.

Kissimmee Gateway Airport

Kissimmee Gateway is home to several flight schools, which offer students the opportunity to learn to fly on Cessnas and other quality private aircraft. Flight schools include:

- American Flyers
- Flying Grasshoppers, Inc.
- Kissimmee Aviation Services
- Orlando Flight Training School
- Sunstate Aviation

Lockheed Martin Commercial Flight Training Center

Lockheed Martin's flight training center offers world-class regional aircraft pilot training. The center's new 15-classroom facility is equipped with a full-range of simulators and support services needed for airline training staffs seeking to maintain reliable training schedules. The training center's simulators are built by leading manufacturers and maintained by factory-trained professionals.

Pan Am International Flight Academy/SimCom

Pan Am International Flight Academy (PAIFA) is a privately owned, comprehensive learning institution that provides advanced aviation training services to professional pilots, flight engineers, flight attendants and maintenance personnel operating in commercial, regional, business, military, government and cargo operations around the world. The academy also offers a comprehensive, FAA-approved Career Pilot Development (CPD) program. The Orlando training center is among the academy's 12 locations nationwide. SimCom, PAIFA's business and general aviation division, offers simulator training programs for an array of general aviation and business aircraft.

Industry Organizations & Involvement

Metro Orlando has several trade associations and government authorities that are focused on advancing the aviation and aerospace sector through research, education and collaboration between private industry, government and academia. Following are brief overviews of a sampling of these organizations:

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) (Central Florida Section)

The nonprofit American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics is the principal society and voice serving the aerospace profession. Its primary purpose is to advance the arts, sciences and technology of aeronautics and astronautics and to foster and promote the professionalism of those engaged in these pursuits. Although founded and based in the U.S., AIAA is a global organization with nearly 30,000 individual professional members, over 50 corporate members, thousands of customers worldwide, and an active international outreach.

Florida Aviation Aerospace Alliance (FAAA)

The FAAA was formed to help the state's industry attract new customers, discover suppliers, recruit and retain skilled workers, and obtain government incentives and assistance. The FAAA was established in 1998 as a private, dues paying, nonprofit corporation. Today this growing organization, in partnership with the state of Florida, has succeeded in bringing the aviation, space and aerospace defense sub-sectors from across Florida together with a commitment to enhance the growth of their businesses and the growth of the aviation and aerospace industry.

Florida Airports Council

The Florida Airports Council's membership represents all international, major hub, medium hub, small hub and reliever airports in Florida and a majority of all publicly-owned, publicly operated general aviation airports in Florida. The council also consists of over 200 airport executives and staff and over 100 private aviation companies and corporations. The council is the only organization in Florida dedicated specifically to airports and to solving the problems of airports. The council's overall program is committed to continued improvement, development and advancement of airports and aviation throughout the state.

Greater Orlando Aviation Authority

The Greater Orlando Aviation Authority (GOAA) was created by a state of Florida legislative act in 1975 to administer all aviation activities of the city of Orlando and to provide a means to serve the public interest through the coordination of the planning, financing, construction and operating of aviation facilities at Orlando International and Orlando Executive airports. The mission of the GOAA is to advance Metro Orlando and Central Florida as the premier intermodal gateway for global commerce.

Orlando Air Cargo Association

The purpose of the Orlando Air Cargo Association is to enhance communication within the air cargo community relating to an exchange of views regarding:

- Trade and commerce
- Regulatory information
- Industry improvements
- Government functions
- Educational developments

Space Florida

Space Florida was created to strengthen Florida's position as the global leader in aerospace research, investment, exploration and commerce. As Florida's aerospace development organization, Space Florida is committed to attracting and expanding the next generation of space industry businesses. Space Florida drives State economic development across the global aerospace enterprise.

Incentives

Metro Orlando offers attractive incentives to qualified relocating and expanding companies. This assistance is provided based on each organization's particular needs, including, but not limited to:

- Job creation
- Wage levels
- Capital investments

For more information, please visit the "Relocate & Expand/Incentives" section of the Metro Orlando EDC's website at OrlandoEDC.com, which provides a general overview of incentives offered to companies within Metro Orlando.

Company Profiles

Metro Orlando features a thriving aviation and aerospace sector, encompassing world-class airports, aviation support companies, flight training centers, air cargo firms and a top air defense contractor. The four-county region features both international and regional airports catering to commercial and corporate travelers and recreational pilots. The aviation industry is anchored by the renowned Orlando International Airport, which is often cited by corporations as a primary factor in deciding to locate their operations in the area. Following is a listing of the area's largest airports:

Orlando International Airport

Orlando International Airport serves more than 34 million passengers annually and accommodates nearly 980 arrivals and departures daily. It is the 13th busiest airport in the nation and 17th largest port of entry for international visitors in the continental U.S. It is also the 3rd largest airport for domestic origin and destination travel.

Non-stop service is available to 83 domestic destinations and 34 international destinations. Orlando International Airport continues to attract new air service from all over the world, providing passengers with an ever-expanding route network, and helping to keep Orlando's traffic growth rate well above the industry average.

With 15,000+ acres, Orlando International Airport is the third largest parcel of airport property in the country. Only 35 percent of the airport's property is developed, leaving significant areas ready for expansion. Over 167,000 tons of cargo shipped through the airport in 2010. The 205-acre park, Foreign Trade Zone No. 42, offers duty exemptions or deferments for companies receiving materials from foreign countries. It includes state-of-the art facilities for storage, manufacturing, shipping and handling. Its Central location and air service by major international and domestic airlines makes global commerce easier through a superior multimodal network of interstate highways, rail systems, deep water ports and space transportation.

Orlando Sanford International Airport

With over one million international charter arrivals annually, Orlando Sanford International Airport is the third most active international airport in Florida and the 13th most active in the U.S. Situated on approximately 2,000 acres, Orlando Sanford International Airport was the fastest growing airport in North for the first nine months of 2004. Additionally, it was the 5th fastest growing airport in the world for airports with over 1 million passengers. Approved in 2001, Foreign Trade Zone No. 250 in Seminole County is the largest trade zone in the state. Its geographic boundaries encompass the Orlando Sanford International Airport, the Port of Sanford, Sanford Central Park and various other parks and sites throughout the county. The FTZ offers duty exemptions on imported materials which reduces overall manufacturing costs.

Orlando Sanford International Airport is also home to the 395-acre Sanford Airport Commerce Park with rail service available in its western sector. A 50,000-square-foot cargo center in the commerce park enables cargo handling, pallet preparation and receiving. The commerce park is easily accessed by major roadways including the Central Florida GreeneWay.

Orlando Executive Airport

Conveniently located only three miles from the business and financial center of downtown Orlando, Orlando Executive Airport is the 25th busiest general aviation airport in the country. Convenient access to all of Orlando's major highways puts the majority of industrial and business centers within minutes of the airport. Orlando Executive's aircraft operations average 237,053 annually. The airport provides 24-hour service, an FAA air traffic control tower and full ILS capability. Aside from meeting both personal and corporate flying needs, services include flight instruction, aircraft sales and rentals, maintenance, charter, storage, and air ambulance services.

Kissimmee Gateway Airport

Located just eight miles from Walt Disney World and minutes from the Orlando-Orange County Convention Center, the 900-acre Kissimmee Gateway Airport accommodates general aviation air service 24 hours a day with two paved runways, 5,000 and 6,000 feet each. Available services include fuel, maintenance, avionics, hangars, flight instruction, aircraft charter and rental cars. The airport also features a recently-constructed air traffic control tower and a 26-acre industrial park for both aviation and non-aviation related businesses.

Leesburg International Airport

Leesburg International Airport features a 5,000-foot asphalt runway, navigational aids and advanced aviation services, as well as space for hangars, open tie-downs and industrial facilities. For those interested in starting a business in this thriving area, land is available for aeronautical industries and commercial frontage is available for other development.

Following are samplings of aviation and aerospace companies operating in the region:

- **Aircraft Service International Group (ASIG)**

ASIG is a recognized leader in the commercial aviation services industry, offering a full range of ground handling, fueling, cargo and ancillary services in 70 cities throughout North America and Europe. ASIG has built a service network capable of providing global solutions in aviation services.

- **AirTran Airways**

Based in Orlando, AirTran Airways is one of the nation's largest low-fare airlines, employing more than 5,000 crew members and serving 488 flights a day to 43 destinations. AirTran Airways is a subsidiary of AirTran Holdings, Inc. and the world's largest operator of the Boeing 717, the most modern, environmentally friendly aircraft in its class.

- **Cessna**

Cessna has delivered over 180,000 aircraft in its 72-year history and has the largest fleet of business jets worldwide. A subsidiary of Textron, Inc., Cessna is planning to construct a new 156,000-square-foot aviation service center at Orlando International Airport. The new facility will provide around-the-clock aviation maintenance and repair service to 5,000 customers annually. The project is expected to create 210 jobs.

- **FMC Airport Systems**

FMC Airport Systems is a division of FMC Technologies, Inc., a global leader in providing mission-critical technology solutions for the energy, food processing and air transportation industries. Its Orlando location is part of the corporation's international network of offices, providing a wide range of commercial aircraft equipment and a comprehensive scope of customer services, technical publications and training materials. The Orlando facility also includes a dedicated service parts warehouse.

- **G&T Conveyor Company**

Based in Tavares, G&T Conveyor Company designs, engineers, manufactures, installs, operates and maintains airline baggage handling systems. As the largest privately held turnkey baggage handling systems manufacturer in the U.S., the company has delivered more than 400 turnkey airport projects on three continents. G&T has designed, engineered, manufactured, and installed more than 450 claim and make-up devices and three million linear feet of transport conveyors.

- **Lockheed Martin**
Lockheed Martin, the nation's second largest aerospace/defense manufacturer behind Boeing, produces a wide range of high tech military-related air and spacecraft and offensive and defensive missiles systems. Locally, Lockheed Martin employs 7,300 workers in Central Florida at divisions that include Missiles and Fire Control and Simulation and Global Training & Logistics. The Missiles and Fire Control division develops, manufactures and supports advanced combat systems and missile, rocket and space systems. The operation is Lockheed Martin's lead business unit for research, development and production of electro-optic and smart munitions systems and is a pioneer in the field of versatile, high-performance missile and rocket technology.
- **Signature Flight Support**
Headquartered in Orlando, Signature Flight Support is the world's largest flight support operation and distribution network for business and commercial aviation services. Signature products and services include fueling, ground handling, passenger services, maintenance, fuel purchasing and aircraft sales and charter at 49 locations around the world. Signature operates at 44 locations in the U.S., four in Europe and one in Hong Kong.
- **Southern Jet Center LLC**
Southern Jet Center LLC is a jet maintenance facility where their services include jet inspections, airplane painting, jet engine services, jet repairs and alterations, pre-purchase inspections and import/export C of A, window repair/resurfacing, air conditioning kit installs and more, for jet and turboprop aircraft. The company is a certified FAA Repair Station specializing in Learjet series, Cessna, Falcons, Hawkers, and King Airs.