

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
May 14, 2009

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## **CASCADE AEROSPACE USA'S MRO HANGAR FACILITY'S DEDICATION**

(Spokane, WA) – Spokane International Airport (GEG) announced today the dedication of the Cascade Aerospace USA's MRO (maintenance, repair, and overhaul) hangar facility. The ceremony included:

- The Honorable Lisa Brown, Majority Leader, Washington State Senate
- The Honorable Chris Marr, Washington State Senate, 6<sup>th</sup> Leg. District
- The Honorable Mary Verner, Mayor, City of Spokane
- Tom Trulove, Chair, Washington State's Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB)
- Rich Hadley, President/CEO, Greater Spokane Incorporated
- Mike Mires, Dean of Instruction, Spokane Community College
- Bret Burnside, President, Cascade Aerospace USA
- Neal Sealock, Airport Director, Spokane International Airport

The ceremony was the culmination of a business recruitment effort that commenced in the fall of 2005. Over the span of the last four years, the Airport received significant support from the State of Washington, particularly Senators Brown and Marr and Representative Timm Ormsby, 3<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District; Governor Chris Gregoire; the Washington Military Department; Community Colleges of Spokane's Institute for Extended Learning and Spokane Community College; and the Community Economic Revitalization Board. A number of organizations and private businesses provided invaluable support to this endeavor as well.

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The project had three major milestone events. First, was 2006's successful effort to secure \$480,000 from the Washington Legislature to assist with the relocation of a Washington Army National Guard helicopter maintenance unit, the MRO hangar's previous tenant. The funding came from an existing account of appropriated, but not allocated dollars that was combined with Airport funds to assist in paying for tenant improvements to Hangar 1001 at Fairchild Air Force Base, the helicopter unit's new home. The second was the July 2006 early release of the lease the US Air Force on the MRO hangar facility. The Airport Board owned the hangar complex but the Air Force had two years remaining on the lease. In both instances, the Washington Military Department was extremely cooperative and helpful, and they fully embraced the community's vision of using the facilities to attract a heavy aircraft maintenance company. The third was the July 2008 award of a \$2 million low interest loan and grant financing from CERB to expand infrastructure and upgrade utilities that would allow the project to move forward.

Cascade's 20 year lease includes approximately 32,000 square feet of hangar floor, 20,000 square feet of office and shop space; 32,000 square feet of vehicle parking; and 6.5 acres of aircraft parking apron. Cascade took possession of the facility in early February 2009 with 40 employees and as of today's date, is an employment site for over 60 workers.

The ceremony concluded with a plaque unveiling recognizing CERB's financial support.

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