



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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N E W S R E L E A S E

Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport Recipient of Airport of the Year Award and Receives Excellent Rating from FAA.

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS..... The Illinois Department of Transportation has selected Springfield's Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport as a 2010 Primary Airport of the Year. In addition, on April 19th and 20th, FAA inspectors conducted an Annual Airport Certification / Safety Inspection and found Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport to be in full compliance with all applicable regulations. The airport has passed this intensive periodic inspection with "no discrepancies" for twelve of the last thirteen years.

IDOT Director, Susan R. Shea, Ph.D., presented the Primary Airport of the Year award to airport officials during a special luncheon ceremony in Chicago on May 19th. Every year, employees of IDOT's Division of Aeronautics vote to determine which Illinois airports should receive this special recognition. Factors weighed in the decision include the airport's cooperation and coordination with Division of Aeronautics and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); the airport's safety record; the promotion of aviation events; the advancement of aviation in general; and the overall maintenance of the airport facility. "I want to congratulate the Springfield Airport Authority for their efforts in making Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport one of the most outstanding examples of aviation excellence in Illinois," said Susan R. Shea, IDOT Director.

The airport was recognized for its initiative and proactive approach to critical capital improvements such as the installation of runway guard lights at taxiway and runway intersections, completion of the Runway 13-31 runway safety area project, completion of the widening of Taxiways Foxtrot and Golf, reconstruction of the southeast general aviation ramp, and the continuation of the installation of new perimeter fencing. The airport was also recognized for being a partner with the local community by hosting many safety and outreach

events such as the IDOT Safe Teen Driving Skills Program and the Annual Charlie Wells Memorial Fly-In/Drive-In, which promotes general aviation and raises money for aviation related scholarships. The airport's long track record for its compliance and progressive approach to the FAA's Airport Certification Program and its successful completion of the inspection were also highlighted in the award presentation. During these periodic inspections the following documents were audited: Airport Certification Manual, personnel training records, initial and recurrent Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting training records, Fuel Facilities Inspection reports, Fueling Agents Training Certification, records of the most recent Airport Emergency Plan review and the Full-Scale Disaster Exercise, airfield daily self-inspection records, airfield ground vehicle operators training program and drivers training records, Wildlife Management Plan, updated information for the Airport Master Record and the NOTAM records. In addition to the aforementioned records, inspection of the Fuel Farm, airfield condition, airfield lighting and signs were conducted with Staff.

"The airport's staff is appreciative of this honor and recognition as it is a tribute to them and the effort they put forth each day of the year," said Mark Hanna, Executive Director of the Springfield Airport Authority. "It takes a team effort of all employees, Airport Commissioners and airport tenants to achieve this level of recognition. Our success can also be directly attributed to the positive relationships the airport maintains with outside entities on and off the airport, which include, but is not limited to the City of Springfield's Police and Fire Departments, the IL Air National Guard 183rd Fighter Wing, Landmark Aviation and McClelland Aviation, and local USDA, Transportation Security Administration, IDOT and FAA officials," Hanna continued.

ABOUT ABRAHAM LINCOLN CAPITAL AIRPORT

Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport is one of the fastest growing regional airports in the Midwest and experienced a 5.35% passenger growth in 2009, despite a nationwide trend of decreased enplanements. Currently, United and American Airlines have multiple, daily flights to Chicago's O'Hare International. Direct Air offers seasonal flights to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and Ft. Myers/Punta Gorda, Florida. Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport is home to the Passenger Service Center, the only on-site airport operated customer service center in central Illinois, and Sky Club, an unparalleled level of service for frequent travelers.

More information, including a complete listing of arrivals and departures can be found online at www.FlySpi.com, or by calling the Passenger Service Center at 217.788.9200.

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