



Touching Ground

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AT THE DES MOINES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

DSM International Offers Wireless Connectivity

Air travelers in this new millennium expect high-speed travel opportunities to connect to geographical destinations quickly. Compatible to travel, they expect to continue their high-speed travel on the Internet when away from home or the office. To meet the needs of today's high-tech savvy traveler the DSM International Airport, in partnership with our network provider ARINC, in association with AirPath, announce high-speed wireless access for travelers in the terminal and concourse. The airport will initiate service with a "wire-cutting" ceremony in early November. Our mobile connectivity positions our airport in an elite, cutting edge group by providing this technology to the flying public.

Now, waiting time required by early arrivals due to tighter security measures can become productive time for business or leisure travelers alike. The system will also

provide mobile data to the aviation department and ARINC is working with the airlines, rental car agencies and other tenants to add wireless to their systems for seamless integration of data. The airport has been negotiating a wireless network, also called WiFi for wireless fidelity, since the beginning of this year.

If your laptop, Palm Pilot, Pocket PC, or internet accessible cell phone has built-in WiFi or you have a 802.11b wireless card, you will get a webpage to sign up for the service as soon as you open your browser. For sign-up problems or technical support you may call 1-800-211-2317. The Paradies Shops in the terminal and concourse areas will also sell the cards. The service can be purchased for \$3.95 per hour, \$9.95 for a day, or \$39.95 for a month and will provide coverage at all public areas in our facility

plus anywhere AirPath has coverage. AirPath is negotiating with airports, airlines, hotels and other public venues for a travel infrastructure, to increase the locations at which a WiFi subscription can be used.

During the wire-cutting ceremony, ARINC will provide a demonstration of the network and offer promotional incentives to local education outlets as well as discount partnerships for major Des Moines businesses to build familiarity and usage of the system. For more information, go to ARINC's website at www.opti-fi.com, AirPath's website at www.airpath.com or the DSM International Airport site at www.dsmairport.com. →

Airport Simulates A Bio-Disaster

September 11, 2001, a new era in disaster preparedness began for facilities like the DSM International Airport. With terrorism a fact-of-life, airport emergency personnel along with DSM Police and Fire Department, Polk County Emergency Management, local hospitals, Polk County mutual aid agencies, American Red Cross, Salvation Army and the DSM Amateur Radio Emergency Services conducted an on-site exercise on Friday, September 19. The scenario involved a plane crash resulting from a biological weapon released in the airplane's ventilation system. This federally mandated training is required every three years, however this marks the first time the training evolved around an act of violence by man as opposed to nature.

The emergency agencies worked in collaboration with one another as they went through a detailed plan to deal with the victims. Saydel High School students portrayed victims and were put through triage for respiratory and physical symptoms related to exposure to a biological agent.



Bio-terrorism simulation volunteers

Although to the untrained observer it may sound like a Hollywood script, there really wasn't a whole lot of dramatics as the professionals treated the victims systematically following procedures.

Ken McCoy, Airport Operations Manager, stressed the importance of the training was not to create a disaster in detail, but to look for errors in the procedural plan of action. "That's the reason you don't see a whole lot of hubbub. We need to take our time to know how we're doing and how we're communicating with the other agencies." →

Newsire

ATA Connection, who currently flies 5-daily shuttle flights between DSM and Chicago's Midway Airport, reached the 10-year service milestone at our airport. President Gary Marsh visited Des Moines and personally greeted passengers and congratulated staff. ATA Connection serves 13 cities as a feeder carrier for its parent company, Indianapolis-based ATA Airlines, which provides service to about 40 destinations on full-size jets.

Aviation Director, Bill Flannery, was recently honored at the Iowa Aviation Conference held on October 16-17 at the Marriott Hotel in West Des Moines. Flannery accepted three prestigious awards from the Iowa Public Airports Association (IPAA)



Bill and Rene Flannery and the Lifetime Achievement Award

for his work on numerous panels, and committees during his tenure of 19-years as director at DSM. The three awards are: Aviation Lifetime Achievement Award, the President's Award and Honorary Membership of IPAA. Newsire cont'd...

DSM Aviation Tech School Lands Curriculum Builder

In June, the Des Moines Central Campus students got a boost to their aviation education when the program obtained an operational Gulfstream G-1 turboprop from the Department of Defense's Army Corps of Engineers in Tallulah, LA. Students will not fly it, but will use it to learn about the plane's mechanical operations. Jerry Bradley, Department Chair and instructor, said it gives them a tool that they can build a curriculum around and troubleshoot on a plane that is flyable. Many of its 199 counterparts are still in service around the country today.

"We have taken the program one step further with this acquisition," Bradley said. "We're one of only four high school programs nationwide and the only one with capabilities to fire up the engines and troubleshoot on a fully operational aircraft like this. Students have got to feel lucky to be able to sit at the controls of a 1,975-shaft horsepower plane like this and use it as a life-size classroom."



Class of 2003 DSM Aviation Tech School

The plane was purchased through the federal surplus property program, which allows non-profit organizations and schools to purchase used and functional items at a fraction of the cost. The plane, valued at nearly \$750,000, was purchased for \$2,500. Fort Des Moines was instrumental in finding the aircraft that was originally used to fly Corps commanders, members of Congress, and other dignitaries.

The school, which has seventy-nine students currently enrolled, offers a three-year program for high school students and a one-year program through Des Moines Area Community College. The program is supported by the DSM International Airport and gives students a chance to learn everything from building a jet engine to the principals of aerodynamics. The school

plans to sponsor an open house to exhibit the new plane later this fall.

"It's a great chance to work on a functional aircraft of this size and get hands-on experience," said Alejandro Rios, a senior at North High School. He has plans to go into medical school and become a pilot. "I'm from another country, and some parts of that country are only accessible through the air, and I want to go back and help some of those people." →

Newsire cont'd

On Tuesday, September 23, from 10:30-1:30 p.m., nearly 500 people attended the **Airport Employee/Tenant Appreciation Picnic** in the plaza. A donation of 298 lbs. of non-perishable food items and a cash gift of \$337 from attendees was given to the Iowa Food Bank. An award of an airport water bottle was given to guests that exercised off lunch on the 1/3 mile, brick walkway around the pond in front of the airport.



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