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Airport NEWS is a bimonthly newsletter of the Airports Division, FAA Central Region providing airport managers and consultants with timely and useful information to help them serve their aviation customers. Suggestions and articles are welcome and should be sent to glenn.helm@faa.gov

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Veteran DBE Professional Retires

July 21, 2006 was Dave Genter's last day on the job. We had known this was going to happen one of these days, but we kept hoping it wouldn't. As "External Program Manager", Dave was a member of the region's Civil Rights Staff, but to us and to many of our readers, he was really a member of the "airports family." True to form, he sent the following message to us early in July – unfortunately, our July newsletter had already gone to press – and asked that we circulate it to all the "Airports Professionals in the Central Region."

First, I would like to thank everyone whom I have had the great pleasure to meet and work with in my eleven years as the FAA- Civil Rights, External Program Manager. You made the third career of my working life a truly enjoyable one. First, the U.S. Air Force for 21 years with many experiences, mostly good ones. Second, three years as an IE Management Consultant and finally my civil service career from 1985 until now. I will retire this month and I plan to sell on Ebay, play golf again and enjoy my grandsons. I'll always remember the wonderful and dynamic professionals I have been so lucky to have met and worked with over these past years. Your

professionalism in the aviation world is a tribute to your dedication in making a difference that counts. "Thank you for the great trip on the flight through life."

David P. Genter

In response, I took the liberty of writing back on your behalf:

We in Central Region's Airports Division (I'm sure I speak for our sponsors as well) appreciate your kind words and want you to know how highly we regard you. Your service to us and to the region's airports community has been so very responsive and valuable that we can't really imagine just how we'll manage without you! Your professionalism and dedication to customer service is, we think, without parallel. We will miss you, Dave, and we wish you the very best for a long and happy retirement.

George A. Hendon
Manager, ACE-600

Fiscal Year 2006 Closes

Here are the final Central Region AIP funding totals for FY 2006:

State	Iowa	Kansas	Missouri	Nebraska	Region
No. of Grants	70	61	18*	50	199
Total \$ (millions)	41.0	22.6	80.3	28.1	172.0

*As a block grant state, Missouri administers a number of sub-grants to the non-primary and general aviation airports in the state. The number of such grants is not reflected here.

Government-Wide Grant Working Initiative Web Cast

The first open stakeholder meeting and web cast that will be sponsored by the CFO Council's Grants Policy Committee on Wednesday, October 25, 2006, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This will be the first of four sessions planned.

The purpose of this meeting is to make everyone aware of past, and most importantly, present and planned initiatives of the P.L. 106-107 Working Groups – including CFR Title 2; standard grant terms and conditions currently in draft; performance reporting; grants training and certification requirements; invention reporting; financial reporting, and others.

Ann Fisher, Associate Director, Office of the Senior Procurement Executive Grants Mgt., Business Policy at the Department of Transportation has asked that we forward this information to our grant recipients. The feedback received from DOT grantees (and other agency grantees) will be critical in steering new initiatives undertaken by the working groups for future implementation. [Grants.Gov](#) provides information regarding web cast access and the Federal Register Notice on their [Grants Streamlining News](#) webpage.

Your Airport Is Never Safe Enough

Aircraft accidents at airports are fortunately rare, but when they happen, they serve as a tragic reminder that airport safety depends on everyone being continuously vigilant. One area where airport operators can help is to be sure that airport configuration changes are addressed via NOTAM when the actual configuration is different from the one shown on the airport diagram. This is a typical situation during construction projects. Additional coordination and education (meetings, posted notices, mailings, e-mail, etc.) for airport users is also beneficial and will increase the margin of safety at your airport.

Glenn Helm

WAAS Achieves CAT-1 Equivalence

The Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) is designed to enhance the accuracy, availability, and integrity of the GPS to make GPS accessible to more users. WAAS has had a long history and more than its share of problems, and unfortunately that's the only side of the story most of us have ever heard about. Here's another side, hidden in a good, but small and not widely read publication called [Avionics](#). The following is an excerpt from the story:

"In March, FAA's GPS Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) reached a new level of performance. The agency announced that the system has been approved for instrument approaches down to 200 feet above ground level (AGL), equivalent to the guidance from a Cat I ILS.

"Since WAAS was commissioned in 2003 as a nationwide means of reducing ionospheric accuracy errors in GPS, FAA has been actively working to develop the system's landing guidance capabilities, by steadily incorporating improvements. Initially, lateral navigation (LNAV) procedures were introduced, followed by LNAV/VNAV — which incorporated vertical guidance — and, later, ILS-comparable localizer precision with vertical guidance (LPV) procedures. With each of these, the associated decision altitudes (DA) — the heights below which a pilot may not descend unless the runway is in sight — were progressively lowered, from 700 feet with LNAV to 400 feet with LNAV/VNAV and, subsequently, to 250 feet with LPV. The approval of Cat I-equivalent WAAS performance further lowers this to 200 feet.

"The goal for WAAS engineers always has been to meet the runway approach standards of ILS Cat 1, a goal many felt was unreachable. For while WAAS-corrected GPS was always within International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and FAA ILS localizer standards for lateral accuracy, the challenge has been to consistently meet ILS glideslope vertical accuracy, where WAAS GPS has previously been much less precise. But under a progressive series of system configuration releases over the past two years, WAAS software and hardware specialists have achieved significant performance improvements, using extensive simulations and data analysis, followed by actual flight tests."

Online Reporting of DBE Accomplishments

AIP Grant recipients with Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) programs are required by Federal Regulation 49 CFR Part 26 to report annually their DBE commitments, awards and payments. Sponsors have generally accomplished this by completing and submitting the form "Uniform Report of DBE Commitments/Awards and Payments" and the associated DBE contractor participation form. Both forms are due each year on December 1st.

Sponsors may now conveniently submit these forms and information on-line using the [DBE Office Online Reporting System](#) (DOORS).

The DOORS system provides the following benefits:

- Web-based application
- Basic instructions on all menus
- Automatic totaling and calculating
- An option to add Adobe Acrobat updates to your personal computer
- Easy account setup
- Access to view previous records
- Allows editing of current years' records
- Access to a DBE contractor participation listing for the entire USA

AIP grant recipients that have DBE participation are strongly encouraged to use the web-based DOORS system in lieu of the paper versions of the Uniform Report of DBE Commitment/Awards and Payments and DBE contractor participation forms..

Sponsors with questions about this system may contact Nancy Cibic, AGL-9, at (847) 294-7182

(Editor's Note: Nancy is located in the Great Lakes Regional Office and is now the Central Region External Program Manager as well.)

Flight Checks Required for PAPIs and VASIs

The FAA is requiring flight checks for all existing and new Visual Glide Slope Indicators (VGSI), including Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI) and Visual Approach Slope Indicators (VASI), that are installed on a runway that is supported by an instrument approach (circling or straight-in).

To support this flight check, the FAA Flight Inspection Office has developed a form that is to be completed by the airport sponsor and submitted to the FAA. The form (titled "Preliminary Data Information For New/Relocated VGSI Facilities) is attached to this article. Contact your FAA project manager for an electronic copy of this form.

Please complete this form for all your airport-owned VGSI systems that are supported by an instrument approach. Submit the form to the fax number or e-mail address on the form. (The FAA will submit the form for FAA-owned VGSI systems.)

The FAA Flight Inspection Office performs flight checks on various facilities at airports. As the opportunity arises, they may add a VGSI flight check at an airport where flight checks

have been scheduled for other facilities. Current policy is to not charge the airport sponsor for VGSI flight checks. If a flight check is performed at an airport where the VGSI information from the form has not been submitted and accepted, a NOTAM is generated indicating "the VGSI angle was not verified by flight inspection." The VGSI may remain in service, but the airport should submit the information ASAP. For new VGSIs, the system should not be turned on until a successful flight check has been performed by the Flight Inspection Office.

If you want to know whether a particular VGSI has been flight-checked, the data on record can be viewed at <http://avnwww.jccbi.gov/datasheet>. In the drop-down boxes, select, "Airports," "Airport Detail", and "Airport Ident" respectively. For "value", enter the airport identifier making sure it is preceded by the letter "K" (e.g KSTL, KDSM, KOMA, KICT, etc.). Select the desired runway end. If there is a date next to "VGSI Lights Commissioned," then the VGSI has been flight-checked.

Glenn Helm, Program Manager

(with thanks to Charles McCormick, AWP-600; Faye Hager, AJW-335; and John Hunt, AMC)

**PRELIMINARY DATA INFORMATION
FOR NEW/RELOCATED VGSI FACILITIES**

REQUIRED DATA:

Airport Name:		Location:
Runway:	Airport Identifier:	Owner of VGSI:
Type of VGSI (Ex: VASI-2L, PAPI-2L, PAPI-4R):		
The distance in feet from the Runway Reference Point (RRP) to the runway threshold (or the displaced threshold if one exists). Distances to the nearest foot.		feet
The angle the VGSI is set to the hundredth of a degree.		

PROVIDE FOLLOWING DATA IF AVAILABLE:

The Threshold Crossing Height at threshold (or displaced threshold if one exists) to the tenth of a foot.		
The elevation of the runway centerline at the RRP. to the tenth of a foot. (Ex. 750.2) Submit elevations in NAVD88 vertical datum (may be in EGM-96 if military)		feet

The coordinates for both ends of the runway and all displaced thresholds
Submit coordinates in NAD/83 horizontal datum (may be in WGS/84 EGM-96 if military)
(data on record at flight check can be viewed at:
<http://avnwww.jccbi.gov/datasheet/>)

Runway #	Latitude To the hundredth of a second	Longitude To the hundredth of a second	Elevation to the tenth of a foot

SUBMITTED BY:

Name:	Date:
Title:	Phone:
Organization:	E-mail:

Data forms should be sent to AVN by fax (405) 954-3164
or e-mail 9-AMC-AVN-AVN210-DATA@FAA.GOV
Questions? (405) 954-5698/5878/7937/5930.

FAA Does Something Right!

Yes, incredible, but true. We announced the ability to “Subscribe to FAA Webpages” in our last newsletter article. This FREE service enables you to know via e-mail about changes to Advisory Circulars, Certalerts, Engineering Briefs, Program Guidance Letters, and Signs & Marking Supplements. No more waiting for this quarterly newsletter to let you know what’s going on and its FREE!

This subscription process is painless (did I mention it was FREE?). You can subscribe to any page that has a “Subscribe to this page” icon on it, as shown in the example image.

Simply click on the link and enter the requested information. You are now subscribed to the page.

Unfortunately, we do not offer this service for all pages. When you visit a page, look for faa.gov Tools. If you see a “Subscribe to this page” link, then we offer the service for that page.



Here is listing of known airport related webpages that presently offer this feature:

- [News and New Resources for Airport Projects](#)
- [New and Revised Airports Series 150 Advisory Circulars \(ACs\)](#)
- [Draft Airports Series 150 Advisory Circulars \(ACs\)](#)
- [Airport Data \(5010\) & Contact Information](#)
- [Certalerts](#)
- [Engineering Briefs](#)
- [Program Guidance Letters \(PGLs\)](#)
- [Signs and Marking Supplement](#)

Airport NEPA Workshop

ACI-NA has teamed up with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Airports Consultants Council (ACC) to offer several regional workshops to learn about and discuss the Airport National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and recent developments related to the FAA's new implementing instructions (FAA Order 5050.4B). The initial workshop in Seattle was highly praised and rated with lots of contact among FAA staff, consultants, and sponsors. The Workshop emphasizes the need to get Planners and Environmental Specialists to work more closely to make our work more efficient. State Block Grant counterparts are urged to attend the Workshop. This is a great opportunity to meet with FAA and sponsors with whom you work and to ensure you hear what they hear. The last workshop will occur in Fort Worth, Texas, December 4-6, 2006. For more information on this event, including registration and hotel information, visit their [ACC Events](#) website.

Recently Revised or New FAA Publications (a selected list)

- [Directory of Airport-Related Topics](#) - A convenient listing of guidance and resources in the Airports section of FAA.gov.
- [FAA Order 5050.4B](#) - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Instructions for Airport Projects
- [AC 150/5320-6D](#) - Change 4 to Airport Pavement Design and Evaluation
- [Background Information for Lot Pay Factor Adjustment Schedules in Engineering Brief #59A](#) (pdf) - Item P-401 Plant Mix Bituminous Pavements (Superpave)
- [AC 150/5200-28C](#) - Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) for Airport Operators
- [AC 150/5340-30B](#) - Design and Installation Details for Airport Visual Aids
- [AC 150/5200-36](#) - Qualifications for Wildlife Biologist Conducting Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Training Curriculums for Airport Personnel Involved in Controlling Wildlife Hazards on Airports

Arrivals and Departures

FAA Airports Division, Kansas City, MO

Scott Tener has been selected as the new FAA Iowa State Planner. He has worked for the FAA for the last 11 years in the ANI Division with responsibilities for Nav aids at many of our large airports. Prior to that job Scott worked for the Army Corps of Engineers. Scott is currently working on his Masters degree in Engineering Management. He will be attending our Airports Conference so please say hello when you see him.

McPherson Airport, McPherson, KS

Tom Chandler becomes the Acting Airport Manager

Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority, Topeka, Kansas

Dave Stremming has announced his retirement effective December 15, 2006. Upon retirement, Dave will have completed 18 years of invaluable service to the Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority. The MTAA oversees operations of two airports, Philip Billard Municipal Airport and Forbes Field. It has been a pleasure working with Dave and we extend our best wishes to him in his retirement.

Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), Jefferson City, MO

Scott Vazzana, Aviation Operations Manager, is resigning effective October 11 to take a position with a commercial real estate firm in Kansas City.

Calendar of Events

Date	Event
October 3-4, 2006	FAA Central Region Airports Conference , Overland Park, KS
December 4-6, 2006	Airport NEPA Workshop (pdf); Dallas, TX
April 4-5, 2007	Iowa Aviation Conference; Sheraton Hotel; West Des Moines, IA; For conference information, call (515) 239-1691
April 11, 2007	Missouri State Aviation Council, Resort at Port Arrowhead; Lake Ozark, MO
April 12-13, 2007	Missouri Airport Managers Association, Resort at Port Arrowhead; Lake Ozark, MO