



STATE OF THE AIRPORT FY 2018/2019

AIRGO, INCORPORATED

Airgo continued to be the significant contributor to Mt. Vernon Outland Airport in terms of aircraft operations, fuel sales, and contributions to the domestic and international airline industry. The company operated at full capacity over the preceding twelve months: Private/Instrument, Commercial/Multi-Engine, and High Performance Curriculum.

AVIONICS INSTALLATION & REPAIR

Mt. Vernon Outland Airport based FAA Certified Repair Station SRT Aviation continued its busy pace with avionics repair and installation work ahead of the January 1, 2020 FAA mandated ADS-B Transponder technology upgrade. A large contract with Southern Illinois University Carbondale was secured upgrading cockpit technology in multiple twin engine aircraft owned and operated by the university. Aircraft from the Illinois Wing of the Civil Air Patrol are also maintained at SRT Aviation. The company employs six full time Airframe and Powerplant (A/P) Technicians and one apprentice A/P Technician.

DOMESTIC FLIGHT TRAINING

SRT Aviation also operates the airport's domestic flight training program at the airport. The Southern Illinois LSA Academy added another aircraft and an additional instructor. Five Certified Flight Instructors and three aircraft are now available with much room to grow.

TERMINAL AERODROME FORECAST

Airport officials worked with the National Weather Service in Paducah, Kentucky to establish a Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) for the airport. National Weather Service forecasters will generate a forecast for the airport four times daily. The TAF helps pilots plan for arrivals and departures into and out of the airport. The nearest TAF is at Scott Air Force Base and is in a U.S. Military format. Mt. Vernon's TAF fills a forecasting gap between Paducah to the south, Evansville to the east, St. Louis to the west, and Decatur to the north.

CONCEPT JET INSTALLATION/DEDICATION

Midwest LSA Expo Legacy Exhibitor Hansen Air Group, based in Kennesaw, Georgia donated a design mock-up jet aircraft to Mt. Vernon Outland Airport. A local team designed and fabricated the mount system required to permanently display the aircraft in an island along the entrance road to the terminal parking lot. The aircraft was lifted into its new home, mounted, and dedicated at the Midwest LSA Expo in September.

RUN FOR THE WALL

The 30th Anniversary Run for the Wall made its only Illinois stop at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport in May. Nearly 700 motorcycles, their riders, passengers, and support staff stopped for lunch and a brief program as they made their way West to East for a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. Riders were again escorted from the airport East through Wayne County to Interstate 64 by Kash Helicopter Services and their suspended 40' by 60' American Flag!

NITRO NATIONALS

Multiple regional remote control boat racing clubs came together at the airport lake in June for the Nitro Nationals. Hundreds of racers from across the nation and a few from foreign shores called the airport home for three days.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

The City Salute to Freedom, Balloons Over Mt. Vernon, Midwest LSA Expo, and KR National Gathering kept the airport busy all Summer and Fall. Most of these events placed visitors in hotel rooms, fuel stations, and retail outlets.

SUMMERSVILLE PARK

Summersville Grade School took over the City's side of the Lease Agreement between the airport and the City of Mt. Vernon for Airport Park. The long standing partnership between the City of Mt. Vernon and the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority has existed since the early 1970's. The City's divesting of park maintenance and the grade school's need for recreational space brought both parties to the airport. The airport appreciates the relationships with both entities.

MT. VERNON SOCCER CLUB

The Mt. Vernon Soccer Club joined Team MVN for the 2019 Season. The MVSC brings scores of youth, family, and friends to the airport on the weekends. Practices and weeknight matches present activity at the airport nearly seven days per week.

HANGAR REHABILITATION

A 1950's era "T" Hangar, re-erected in its present location in 1975, received new roof panels, side panels, and interior and exterior lighting. Perhaps the biggest change was the replacement of the original 1950's sliding doors with state of the art hydraulic upswing doors. The airport's biggest eyesore was transformed into one of its nicest looking buildings.

AVIATION REPORT

The Annual Aviation Report for calendar year 2018 was published in February, 2019. Total operations increased 20% over the previous year (26,030 in 2018 as compared to 20,808 in 2017). Total based inventory was a respectable 53 (40 Single Engine Land, 10 Multi-Engine Land, and 3 Helo).