

# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



## **2016 Business Awards Breakfast: Denton Enterprise Airport Recognizes US Aviation Group**

At the recent 2016 Business Awards Breakfast, the city of Denton, Texas, recognized US Aviation Group (USAG) for “advancing the stature and prosperity of Denton and the Denton Enterprise Airport.” Denton City Mayor, Chris Watts, and Airport Operations Manager, David Schaumburg, presented USAG’s award in recognition of “increasing and diversifying business activity and continued investment into facilities at Denton Enterprise Airport.” Schaumburg further stated, “On behalf of the city of Denton, I thank you and USAG for your continued commitment and joining us in our goal of being dedicated to quality service.”

Scott Sykes of USAG Business Development and Michael Parafinik, VP of Finance, were on hand to accept the award and thanked the Mayor, Airport Operations Manager, and all in attendance. In acceptance of the award, Scott Sykes stated, “We are honored to receive this recognition of our contribution to the city as we celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> year of sustained growth at DTO. We feel fortunate to have such an outstanding strategic partnership with the city of Denton that enables us both to grow and meet our mutual business objectives.”

USAG began flight training operations at the Denton Airport in 2006 with thirty students, five aircraft, and a handful of employees. At the end of 2015, there were over 460 students in training, the fleet had grown to over 100 aircraft, and total employees to just over 230. Each student housed in the Denton area stays for a minimum of one year and is provided with flight training equipment such as computers, iPhones, iPads, and other personal items. Each student spends \$400-\$800 per month on food, clothing, and incidentals.

In 2015, USAG's long awaited King Air C90A full motion, level C, flight simulator was completed with a total investment of over 5.5 million dollars. The simulator is used primarily for the High Performance training of current students; however, phase two of the project will allow the simulator to be converted into a King Air 350 for additional pilot training in flight academies outside of Texas.

USAG has become much more than a flight training academy. They are one of two contract Fixed Base Operators ( FBO) at the DTO Airport and—through aggressive marketing, exceptional customer service, and competitive fuel pricing—have achieved an unprecedented milestone last year by selling over 1 million gallons of fuel.

The presence of the US Aviation Academy has contributed to the Airport acquiring additional federal funding to increase our Air Traffic Control hours to the maximum funded under the Federal Contract Tower Program. This has been beneficial for recruiting and retaining additional business for the Airport as a whole. The USAG business presence has also contributed to the TxDOT Aviation programming Denton Enterprise Airport for a 3-year Aviation Capital Improvement Plan of roughly \$13,000,000 in funding for a parallel runway, realigned taxiway, replacement of a portion of the existing runway, and additional infrastructure improvements that will help the Airport grow and develop on the West side of Airport property.