



## Winter 2012

A flight student , flying a solo cross-country, lost his way and before he finally ran out of fuel he decided to put it down on a road.

With very few cars on the road he managed to coast his aircraft into a gas station. He said to the attendant, "Fill 'er up!"

The attendant just looked at the pilot. "I bet you don't get too many airplanes asking for a refuel," said the pilot. The attendant replied: "True, most pilots use that airport over there."

It was mealtime on a small airline and the flight attendant asked the passenger if he would like dinner.

"What are my choices?" he asked.

"Yes or No," she replied.



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## Airport Director's Update

As you may recall from last quarter's newsletter and from our Facebook® page, Rochester International Airport held a contest in which participants were entered to win free airfare on American Eagle and Delta Airlines. On December 15 the names were drawn and the winners were:

**Lisa Reicks** of Rochester, MN  
Winner of 2 Round-Trip tickets from American Airlines!

**Gary Polikowsky** of Rochester, MN  
Winner of a \$500 Travel Voucher from Delta Airlines!



Congratulations Lisa and Gary. We hope you enjoy your free travel courtesy of RST, American Airlines and Delta Airlines. We would also like to say thank you to all of the participants. Look for more exciting events in the future. You never to know what to expect from RST!

On a different note, Kurt Claussen, my Airport Deputy Director, and I will be flying to Florida in March for a national air service development conference. While at the conference Kurt and I are scheduled to sit down with several air service providers, including our existing air service providers American and Delta, as well as United, Frontier and Allegiant. Our primary goal during these meetings is to continue working with our existing carriers to enhance the services they provide and to convince new air carriers that a Rochester market makes good business sense for their organization. To assist airport management in these meetings and for future air service development, RST has contracted with an air service consultant, Sixel Consulting Group. They are of the nation's premier air service development firms. Sixel will be assisting airport management and the Rochester Airport Company Board of Directors in analyzing existing air service needs and requirements. In addition, they will help develop a strategy to enhance existing air service and attract new air service markets for RST. While the relationship with Sixel is in its infancy, much has already been learned by airport management staff and the board members as to how best approach the issue of air service development and how it relates to service at RST. We look forward to a rewarding and results driven relationship with Sixel in the future as RST continues to work on enhancing and increasing air service for our passengers.

*Steven W Leque*

Steven W. Leque  
Airport Director

## Airport Projects Update...

### *Airfield Construction...*

This summer Rochester International Airport will be performing routine preventive maintenance on several runway and taxiway areas. This project, as part of the RST pavement management program, includes concrete rehab on taxiway Alpha, several connector taxiways, Runway 2/20, as well as rubber removal on both runways. If you are an aircraft owner/operator please check our website often for construction updates, as well as checking with Flight Service for any relevant NOTAMs that may be in effect for RST.

### *Facilities...*

RST will be participating in a project to remodel the Air Traffic Control Tower. This project will upgrade all 3 floors of the tower, excluding the tower cab itself. This project is being funded in part by MnDOT Grant funding, as well as FAA participation.

The airport will also be remodeling / reconfiguring hangar A (formerly RC Avionics) for US Customs. Due to US Customs requirements more space is needed for Customs operations. This project will start sometime this summer.



## Upcoming / Recent Events...

### Rochester International Airport Receives Patriot Award

On January 24, 2012, Rochester International Airport was presented with the Patriot Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Organization (ESGR), for Rochester Airport Company's support of National Guard and Reserve troops. ESGR is a Department of Defense organization, established to promote support between civilian employers and members of the National Guard and Reserves. The Rochester Airport Company was nominated for this award by an employee that is currently serving in the Army Reserves.

Below is the email that Steve Leque, Airport Director, received from Norman Hecimovich, the ESGR representative who presented the award:

"Steven W. Leque - It was such an honor and privilege to be able to present that Prestigious Patriotic Employer Award to you and Rochester Airport Company. Plus it was also such an honor to pin your Administration Team of Curt Clausen [sic], Brian Thompson and Ron Cropp. I can see why the Rochester Airport is so successful with such Great and Cooperative People Working together. Also thank you for signing the Statement of Support of the ESGR... As a retired military and school principal, I really enjoy meeting friendly and cooperative people. Good Luck and God Bless America.

Thank you again,  
Norm Hecimovich



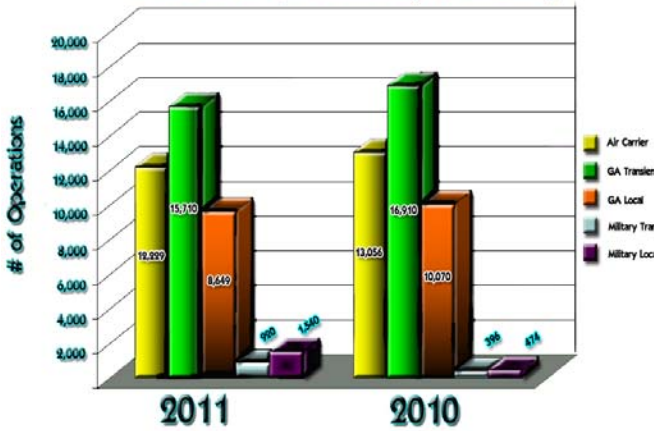
The Rochester Airport Company is proud to support our men and women in uniform for the sacrifices that they and their family members make on a daily basis.

## Air Service Update

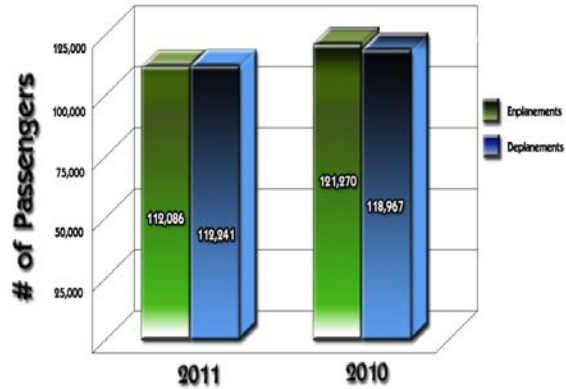
RST Passenger Statistics			
2011 Totals			
Month	Enplanements	Deplanements	
Jan	8,940	8,791	
Feb	7,995	8,040	
Mar	9,675	9,402	
Apr	9,421	9,795	
May	10,075	10,645	
June	9,562	9,404	
July	9,074	9,261	
Aug	9,528	9,526	
Sep	9,990	10,230	
Oct	10,783	10,553	
Nov	9,036	8,858	
Dec	8,007	7,736	
<b>2011 Totals</b>	<b>112,086</b>	<b>112,241</b>	
<b>2010 Totals</b>	<b>121,270</b>	<b>118,967</b>	



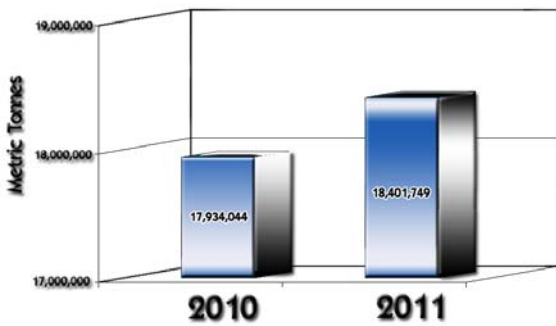
Aircraft Operations (by sector)



Enplanements vs Deplanements



Air Cargo Volume



## Public Safety Services

In the Winter 2011 edition of the "RST Airside Times" newsletter an article mentioned the addition of a new piece of equipment to one of the airport's firefighting vehicles. This new equipment, called a Snozzle, allows for airport firefighters to battle an aircraft interior fire without entering the aircraft. The snozzle pierces the skin of the aircraft, allowing for foam and water to be dispersed into the cabin of the aircraft, significantly increasing the odds of passenger survival in the event of an interior fire. However, as the old adage goes "equipment is only as good as the people who use it." On-going training in the proper use of this equipment is essential for the equipment to be effective and for airport firefighting personnel to use the equipment in a safe manner. To properly train airport personnel, this type of training device was necessary to get as close as possible to a real life scenario. After researching training devices, only to find out that the most inexpensive



device was almost \$10,000, airport maintenance personnel used their ingenuity and excellent fabrication skills to construct a snozzle training device that provides a realistic training environment for firefighting personnel. The device, called a skin penetrating training device, or as we affectionately call it "Alynn", (named after Alex Olson and Lynn Apenhorst, the two maintenance personnel who created the device) is used routinely by airport firefighting personnel to hone their skills with this lifesaving piece of equipment.

### **\*\* REMINDER \*\***

Please call **911** for any non-aircraft related medical or fire emergency prior to calling the Airport Fire Department.

-Thank You!



## Trivia Time

### Instructions:

1. Decode the following message; and
2. Provide the correct answer to the message

**YMJ BWNLMY GWTYMJWX' KNWXY KQNLMY FY  
PNYYD MFBP BFX NS BMFY DJFW?**

The first person to email the decoded message and correct answer to [bthompson@flyrst.com](mailto:bthompson@flyrst.com) will receive a \$5.00 voucher to the 331 Express.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO TIM ARGO OF ROCHESTER, FOR BEING THE FIRST TO  
CORRECTLY ANSWER LAST QUARTERS TRIVIA QUESTION.**

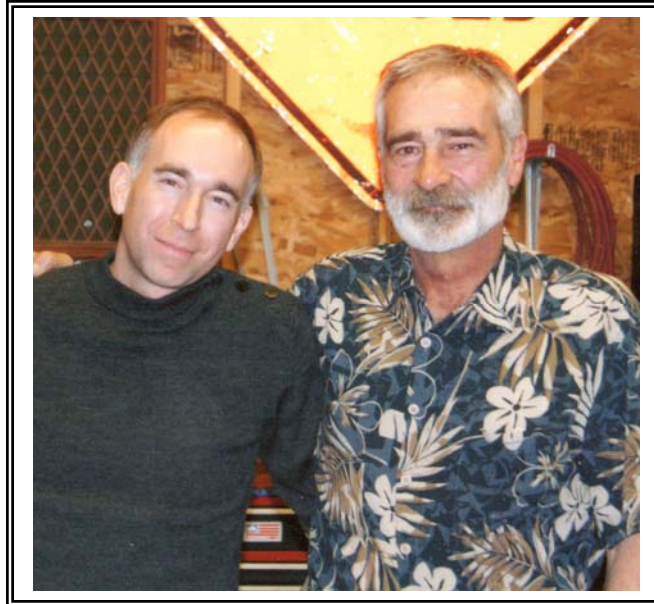
**THE CORRECT ANSWERS WERE: 1. Svalbard airport in Norway AND 2) It is the  
northernmost airport in the world with commercial airline service**

## Airport Happenings...

### *Reunited...After 43 Years!!!*

Tom Smith, an RST airport maintenance technician for over 22 years, recently received a special gift, one that took Tom by complete surprise.

In 1969 Tom and his young, future wife learned that they were going to be parents. For most couples this is exciting news. However, for Tom and his soon-to-be wife this news came at a difficult period. Both sets of parents were unsupportive of the marriage, as well as the news of the pregnancy. Additionally, Tom was scheduled to depart for Vietnam only a couple of months from the date they learned they were going to be parents. This left Tom and his future wife in a difficult position, one that they were not prepared for as young adults soon to be separated by war. Tom and his soon-to-



be wife, not knowing what either of their futures would hold, decided that in the best interest of the child that they would put their baby boy up for adoption to ensure that he would have a safe and secure future.

Tom served one tour of duty in Vietnam, receiving the Combat Infantry Badge, one Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars, and eventually returned home with injuries he sustained in a deadly firefight with North Vietnamese forces. Tom and his wife divorced in 1988, after having two more children together, Josh and Eva. Although Tom moved on he never forgot about the child he never got a chance to know, speaking now and then about the baby. At the time of the baby's adoption, records of adopted children were sealed and the whereabouts of adopted children were rarely, if ever, provided to the biological parents, making it almost impossible for Tom to find out what had happened to the child he loved but never got to meet.

Stepping forward 42 years Josh and Eva decided that they wanted to use the technology available today and find their missing brother. After several months of searching they found their brother, Eric Frahm, living in Seattle, Washington. Josh and Eva found out that their brother was an accomplished musician and choir director at several Seattle area churches, and had been adopted by two loving and caring parents, Hans and Connie Frahm of Madison, Wisconsin. After speaking for several months, Eric decided that he wanted to meet his biological parents, as well as his brother and sister.

In January of 2012 Tom finally got to meet his son, an opportunity Tom had been waiting for and wanting for the last 43 years. Eric and his parents flew to Minnesota, where they all met at Tom's house. Tom described the meeting as "emotional, something I've waited a long time for." To make things more exciting, Tom recently found out that Eric may be moving to Winona to pursue a job, giving Tom an even greater opportunity to get to know the son he never had a chance to know before.

In January, Tom announced that he would be retiring from the Rochester International Airport after almost 23 years of service, which will give Tom even more time to get to know his son better.

The staff of Rochester International Airport congratulates Tom on finding his son and thanks Tom for his 23 years of dedication to the Rochester International Airport.

## Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following airport employees for their "endurance". Say hi to these individuals the next time you see them and let them know you appreciate their dedication to making RST a great place to work and visit:

David Butlin	-Airport Maintenance	- 18 years in January
Jim Newman	-Airport Maintenance	- 16 years in January
Alex Olson	-Airport Maintenance	- 15 years in March
Lynn Apenhorst	-Airport Maintenance	- 10 years in March
Nancy Curry	-Airport Administration	- 6 years in March



### Annual Signatory Training –

If you are an authorized Signatory Authority for your organization, be on the lookout for an email from Nancy reminding you that it is once again time for recurrent signatory training. Recurrent training is now available online, eliminating the need for you to schedule time off to come to a training course at the airport. The link to the online training program will be provided to you in the reminder email.

### Badge Audit Requirements –

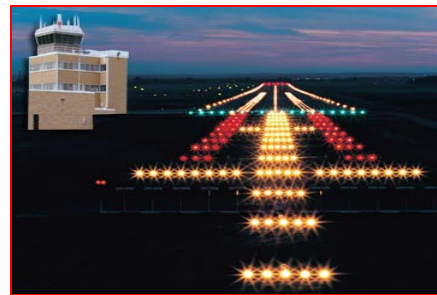
Some of you may have recently received a request for your badge information. Why did you receive this? Due to federal regulations the airport is required to conduct two annual audits. The first audit is a six month, 10% random selection audit and the second is an annual comprehensive audit. If you have received a badge, SIDA or AOA, from the Rochester International Airport you are required to comply with any audit request. Failure to comply with an audit request will result in suspension or termination of access privileges until compliance with the audit request has been confirmed by the Airport Security Coordinator. If you receive an audit request and have any questions please call Nancy Curry in Airport Administration.

## Tenant Spotlight...



When most people think of the Federal Aviation Administration, or FAA, they think of airplane crashes and the investigation that accompanies a crash. What many people don't know is that the FAA is a multifunctional agency under the direction of the Department of Transportation, responsible for all facets of the aviation industry.

The FAA has a permanent presence at Rochester International Airport, with two separate and distinct functions: 1) Air Traffic Control, a team of highly trained air traffic controllers, overseeing all airspace and air traffic functions for RST, as well as providing approach and departure control for a 40 mile radius of RST, and 2) an FAA Airway Facilities Team. This team of skilled technicians provides maintenance and technical support on many pieces of equipment necessary for the safe and efficient operation of aircraft, equipment such as radar, navigational aids (instrument approach



and approach lighting systems (such as the ones in the median on Highway 63).

Without these hard working men and women, the skies above us would be a chaotic and congested mess, leaving the aircraft operator without any means of safely taking off, flying the crowded skies or landing at an airport experiencing inclement weather (without the assistance of lighting and navigational aids).

To learn more about the FAA please visit their website at <http://www.faa.gov>

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Most planes flying internationally have their home country's flag painted on or around their tails. Generally, the flag is facing the proper way around on the left (port) side of the aircraft and backward on the starboard side. Why? Because that's how it would look if a real flag were hoisted on a pole above the airplane during the flight.
- Airline doors and windows are often inset a few millimeters from the fuselage so that they'll expand to be flush with the fuselage during flight.
- The windows in an airport control tower must be tilted out at exactly 15 degrees from the vertical to minimize reflections from both inside and outside the control tower

<http://www.flyrst.com>

