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## FBO News



**Tampa Intl Jet Center (TIJC) at TPA (Intl, Tampa FL) is among several FBOs to join the Avfuel network since Jan 1.**

Amenities and services offered by TIJC include ramp access for ground vehicles and the area's largest aircraft canopy (12,500 sq ft). With 108,000 sq ft of hangars, the FBO also offers overnight and long-term storage.

Two California FBOs now served by Avfuel are Tradition Aviation at TRM (Jacqueline Cochran, Palm Springs CA) and Jet Air at SEE (Gillespie, San Diego CA).

With over 200,000 sq ft of heavy ramp space and over 150,000 sq ft of insulated hangar space, Tradition Aviation can accommodate a wide variety of aircraft.

Avfuel will act as Jet Air aviation fuel and services provider, and will supplement the FBO with marketing services. Jet Air now offers Avfuel contract fuel and Avtrip rewards points on qualifying fuel purchases. Jet Air offers 250,000 sq ft of tarmac, and overnight hangar storage is available.

Avfuel and MVY (Vineyard Haven MA) are now partnered as fuel supplier and branded FBO. Under the new agreement MVY receives fuel, marketing, quality assurance and other services from Avfuel, while retaining its independence.

FBO services include refueling, handling, tiedowns, ground power, aircraft towing, deicing and catering. There is limited hangarage for single and light twin aircraft.

Direct Jet Center, a member of the Avfuel FBO network, is now fully operational, in tandem with the reopening of SGU (St George UT). Direct Jet Center has 11 acres of freshly paved ramp space and can accommodate large business aircraft. It also has brand new fuel facilities, double taxiways and 5 acres of helipads.

**US Aviation has expanded FBO and flight training ops at DTO (Denton TX).** It recently started offering Exxon fuel and is among the first in the country to use stainless steel-lined fuel tanks.

Four years ago, when US Aviation took over the flight school at DTO, there were about two dozen students in the program. Today, there are more than 200, most of them on a professional pilot track.

US Aviation Pres Mike Sykes says, "We outgrew the space we had developed for training, maintenance and sales, so we upgraded, expanding [our] office and classroom space.

We're constantly discussing new ways to expand our welcome mat and improve the US Aviation experience." US Aviation is a factory-approved Citation and Mooney aircraft specialist.

**Aero Charter has broken ground on a new \$4-million hangar at SUS (Spirit of St Louis MO). Construction is expected to be completed this summer.** The additional facility will more than double Aero Charter's current capacity with a new 30,000 sq ft hangar 4200 sq ft of shop area and 105,000 sq ft of apron. Aero Charter says it outgrew its current

facility, which was built in 1998.

Locally owned and operated since 1978, Aero Charter provides support services for business and private aircraft. With a fleet that includes jet, turbine and piston aircraft, the company offers worldwide flights. In addition to charter, Aero Charter provides aircraft management, maintenance, avionics and FBO ground support.

**Million Air DAL (Love, Dallas TX) met or exceeded Wyvern standards in a recent audit of its safety management system (SMS).** Dir Ops Bob Schmidt says, "I am very proud of our team's efforts and their commitment to ensure that we provide the highest level of safety standards and compliance for our owner, managed clients, charter customers and employees."

Million Air DAL is rated Platinum by Aviation Research Group/US (ARG/US). It earned its original IS-BAO SMS Level 1 registration in 2008 and met its renewal registration with an SMS Level 2 in 2010. The company was also one of the first charter companies to meet the new Air Charter Safety Foundation standards.

**JWY (Midlothian TX), the DFW reliever, has completed a runway extension to 6500 x 100 ft and is undergoing terminal facilities renovation.** As a result, the airport has released a request for proposal for an MRO, sales center or major flight department to operate a repair station and manage fuel concessions.

JWY Airport Mgr Andy Biery says, "Given the favorable economic and taxation conditions in Texas, we feel that the offering would be attractive to a company wishing to take on an immediate 18,000 sq ft facility with plenty of room for expansion."

