



CLINT ZWEIFEL
MISSOURI STATE TREASURER

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Aero Charter, Inc. receives \$2 million low-interest loan from State Treasurer Clint Zweifel's Missouri Linked Deposit Program
Loan helps business expand, build new hangar and add jobs

CHESTERFIELD, Mo. – State Treasurer Clint Zweifel (ZWY-ful) announced today Aero Charter, Inc., has received a \$2 million low-interest Missouri Linked Deposit Program loan. The aircraft charter and management company is using the loan to build a new hangar and add new jobs.

“Aero Charter is a smart, creative company that has successfully grown over 35 years,” Treasurer Zweifel said. “It understands its customers and their needs. I am proud we could match this business with low-cost capital to help it continue to prosper right here in the St. Louis region. Every business we help grow in Missouri is a success story for our workers, our communities and our state.”

Aero Charter, Inc. was founded in 1978 at St. Louis Lambert Airport with a single plane. In 1993, it built a 12,000 square-foot-hangar with 6,000 square feet of office at the Spirit of St. Louis Airport. That same year, the Chesterfield Valley flood severely damaged this new location. Aero Charter moved to the new hangar at Spirit Airport in 1994 after post-flood reconstruction. Running out of space in 1998, Aero Charter sold that hangar and office building and constructed a new 24,000-square-foot hangar with 8,600 square feet of office space in a prime location at the airport.

Using the Missouri Linked Deposit Loan, Aero Charter recently expanded by adding a 30,000-square-foot hangar, 107,000 square feet of ramp and 5,000 square feet of leasable office and storage space. To accommodate rising demand, Aero Charter has added 20 employees within the last three years, increasing the total number of full-time employees to 55.

“We were able to justify expanding our facility during these less-than-certain economic times due partially to the favorable financing terms afforded by the Missouri Linked Deposit Program,” said John J. Morgenthaler, Jr., president of Aero Charter, “We are now positioned for the growth that is certain to come, and we’re grateful to all the parties involved for working with us to secure the advantageous financing package.”

The recipient of numerous safety awards, Aero Charter provides complete aircraft support services for business and private aircraft. The company offers worldwide flights with the majority of its clients flying throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and South America. The fleet includes 16 jet, turbine and piston aircrafts. In addition to charter, Aero Charter provides full aircraft support services including aircraft management, maintenance, avionics, Fixed Base Operation (FBO) ground support and a full-service travel agency. For information call 636-537-0005 or visit www.aerocharter.com.

Commerce Bank partnered with Treasurer Zweifel to make the loan.

Since January 2009, the St. Louis region has received nearly \$300 million in loans impacting more than 6,400 jobs and farmers. Statewide, more than \$1.4 billion in loans have been approved impacting more than 25,000 jobs and farmers.

About the Missouri Linked Deposit Program

The Missouri Linked Deposit Program is led by State Treasurer Clint Zweifel. Missouri-based small businesses with up to 99 employees and farmers are eligible to receive a loan through the Missouri Linked Deposit Program based on lender underwriting standards. Additionally, local governments, housing developments and alternative-energy focused projects may qualify for the low-interest loans. About 130 lenders with 350 branches throughout Missouri use the Missouri Linked Deposit Program. An extensive list of participating lenders and program eligibility guidelines are online at www.treasurer.mo.gov/LinkedDeposit.

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