

**e-Link is a quarterly newsletter for our tenants, vendors and business partners to stay linked in with the projects, accomplishments and development at Southwest Florida International Airport and Page Field.**

## January 2013

- On Jan. 10, the Lee County Port Authority hosted the Florida National Guard Career Connection and provided them with the opportunity to speak with our airline partners and other tenants at RSW about hiring National Guard members. This initiative is part of LCPA's long-term commitment to support veteran employment in Southwest Florida.
- The Lee County Board of Port Commissioners elected Commissioner Cecil L Pendergrass as chair for 2013 during its first meeting on Jan. 14. Commissioner Larry Kiker was appointed as vice chair by Commissioner Pendergrass.
- Sun Country Airlines announced they will extend current seasonal service to Minneapolis-St. Paul from RSW with twice weekly nonstop flights on Tuesdays and Saturdays throughout the summer.



- Base Operations at Page Field hosted the Collings Foundation's "Wings of Freedom Tour," on Jan. 28-30. Hundreds of history buffs, aviation enthusiasts and several World War II combat veterans visited the airport during the event. The B-17, B-24 and P-51 on display are among the last of these famous aircraft still flying.
- Frontier Airlines inaugurated nonstop weekly Trenton service on Jan. 31, 2013.



- Avfuel Corporation selected Base Operations at Page Field to be the production site for a training video that will be used to teach quality control to more than 600 Avfuel-branded dealers. The completed video will include the Base Operations staff and facilities. Avfuel Corporation is the nation's leading independent supplier of aviation fuels and services and has been the supplier to Page Field since 2008.



## February 2013

- Aviation Market Development recently won recognition for its marketing program at the Routes Airport Marketing Awards held in Cartagena, Colombia. RSW tied with Tampa International Airport for second place, earning a Highly Commended Award.



- The Federal Aviation Administration Southern Region Airports Division honored RSW with its 2012 Air Carrier Airport Safety Award. This award is given annually to a commercial airport that has taken actions, instituted programs or otherwise operated in a manner deserving of special recognition for improving airport safety. The award recognized RSW's Safety Management System (SMS) program.



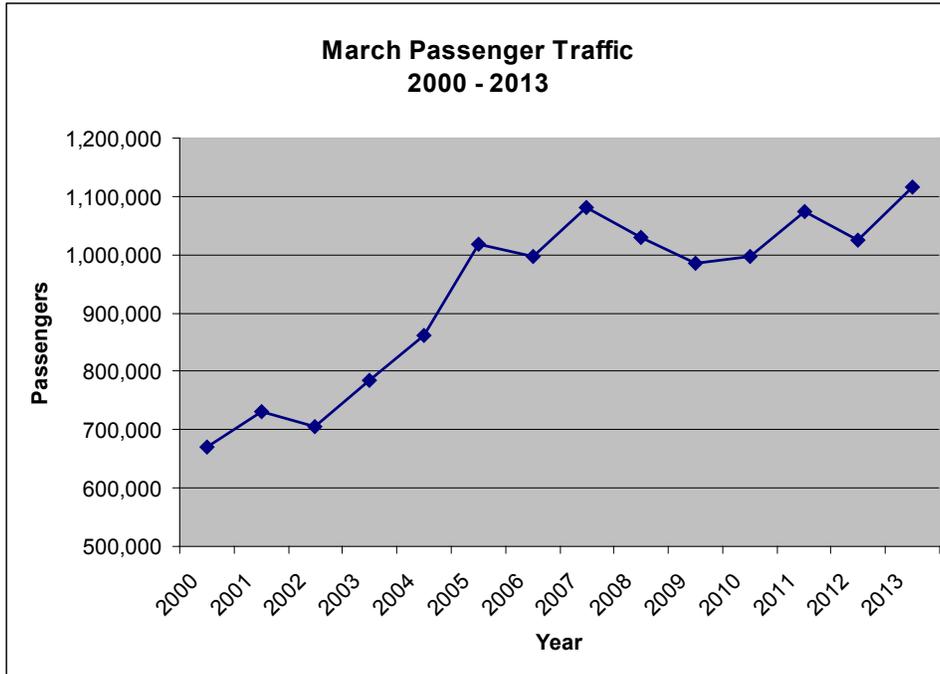
- The Airports Special Management Committee elected Fran Myers as chair and Dan Baggot as vice chair for 2013 during its meeting held on Feb. 26.

## March 2013

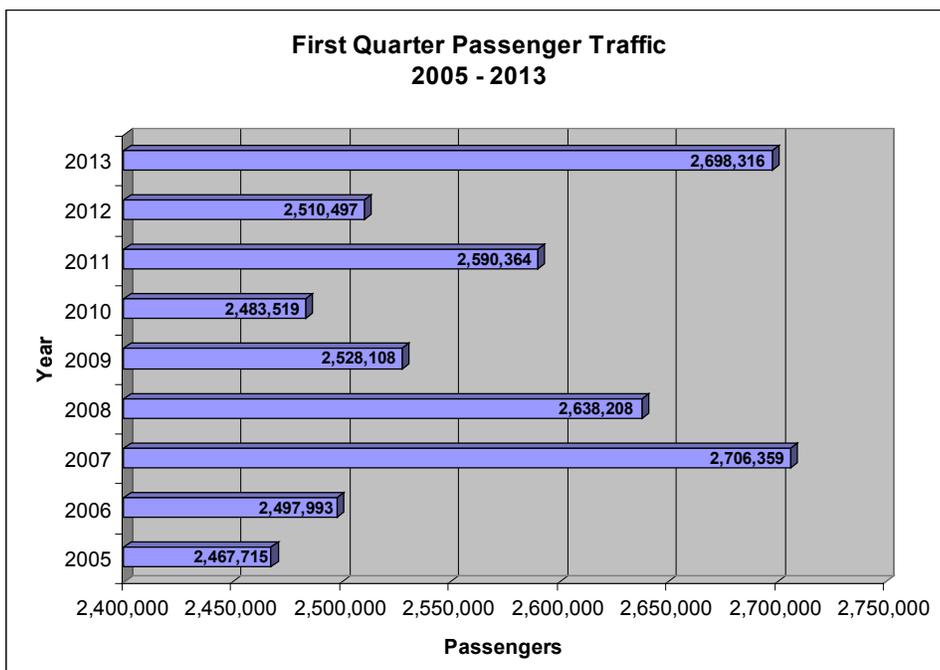
- Woodward (Woody) S. Hanson was appointed to the Lee County Port Authority Airports Special Management Committee by Lee County Commissioner Frank Mann. Hanson is president of Hanson Real Estate Advisors, Inc., a multi-generation, family-owned real estate company providing Southwest Florida with brokerage, appraisal and consulting services.
- John E. Goodrich, Jr. was appointed to the Lee County Port Authority Airports Special Management Committee by Lee County Commissioner Cecil L Pendergrass. Goodrich is the vice chair and director of government relations for the Estero Council of Community Leaders, director of the Estero Community Planning Panel and director of the Estero Community Improvement Foundation.
- Base Operations at Page Field was recognized by the National Air Transportation Association for their dedication to safety by ensuring all line service personnel had completed the NATA Safety 1st Training Program.



- During the month of March, more than 1.1 million people traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport, making this the best March (and month!) in the history of the airport for passenger traffic.



- Southwest Florida International Airport's 2013 first quarter passenger traffic increased by 7.48 percent compared to the first quarter in 2012.



## Meet Tomlinson @ FMY

At Page Field, a vintage aircraft can go from relic to renewed with the help of Tomlinson Avionics. Since 1997, this FAA-certified repair station installs, maintains and repairs everything from radios to GPS systems – or as President Ralph Tomlinson says, “Anything you see on the instrument panel of a plane that’s not tied to the engine.” The company specializes in equipment for cabin-class turbine aircraft weighing 14,500 pounds or less. According to Ralph, “Replacing analog equipment with new digital instruments is a big part of what we do. Garmin is probably our number one vendor, because we install a lot of GPS navigation systems.”



Tomlinson grew up in Fort Myers and learned how to work on aircraft in Arkansas with his brother during summer breaks from college. After several years, he felt the pull of his former home. “I was at a marina in the middle of winter and saw seagulls walking on the ice. That’s when I realized I missed Florida and wanted my own avionics business here,” he recalls. Starting with a rented space inside the Switlik Aviation (an aircraft maintenance company) hangar based at Page Field, Tomlinson Avionics of Florida was born.

Today, Tomlinson’s business has grown into its own 4,800-square-foot hangar off of Danley Drive and will celebrate its 16th anniversary at Page Field this November. The five-person staff has worked on aircraft from across the U.S., with a strong customer base in Florida. As an FAA-certified repair station, they must meet a long list of requirements, including having appropriate test equipment, a library of manuals and specifications, certified personnel with ongoing training and more. In 2011, Tomlinson Avionics was one of only 72 repair stations in North America to be recognized by the Avionics Electronics Association with an Avionics Training Excellence Award – an honor that demonstrates the company’s commitment to the ongoing education of its technicians. In addition to their work at Page Field, they also operate an e-commerce website selling pilot supplies and equipment to people worldwide. It seems this “small business” isn’t so small after all!

“People don’t realize how much general aviation affects business,” says Tomlinson, who has worked with his share of aircraft owners through the years. He describes them as being a unique set of people who are down to earth and typically business owners. “Having a great GA facility in our area attracts and supports growth – do you think Fuccillo Kia would be here if the owner couldn’t easily fly in and out from his home in New York? These are the kind of people who use Page Field, and we’re proud to be a part of the community here. You know it’s a nice airfield when there is a quality repair station, maintenance facility and FBO all in one place.”

