



## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RECOGNIZED FOR BEST COMMERCIAL AIRPORT PROJECT BY FDOT**

FORT MYERS, Fla. (Aug. 12, 2014) – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) honored Southwest Florida International Airport with the 2014 Commercial Service Airport Project for its Apron Expansion and Associated Taxiways project. This award was presented to the Lee County Port Authority, AECOM and Manhattan Construction at the Florida Airports Council Annual Conference held in Jacksonville, Fla.

The Apron and Taxiway Expansion Project at Southwest Florida International Airport provided more space for aircraft taxiing between the runway and terminal gates, additional paved areas for overnight and diverted aircraft parking and a long-term, cross-field taxiway system linking the existing runway to the future parallel runway.

“Receiving this award is a tribute to the dedication of Port Authority staff and our project team,” said Robert M. Ball, A.A.E., executive director of the Lee County Port Authority. “The project enhances the safe movement of aircraft and was accomplished without interruption to our flight schedules or inconvenience to the traveling public.”

The FDOT Aviation Office annually reviews aviation projects for the Airport Project of the Year Award. To be considered, the project must demonstrate exceptional professional skills and represent a significant contribution to airport development, sustainability, efficiency, capacity, and/or safety. The award is also given to the primary consultants and contractors who worked on the project. This is the fourth time Southwest Florida International Airport has received this statewide accolade.

Southwest Florida International Airport served more than 7.6 million passengers in 2013 and is one of the top 50 U.S. airports for passenger traffic. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction. For more information, please visit [www.flylcpa.com](http://www.flylcpa.com).