



Port of Skagit

NEWS RELEASE

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Corporate Air Center Breaks Ground for Hanger Expansion at Port

BURLINGTON, WA – Local dignitaries heft their gold shovels on August 2 to break ground for the expansion of the Corporate Air Center facility at the Port of Skagit’s Skagit Regional Airport. The new 16,000-square-foot building is expected to be completed in January 2018.

The new facility will be able to hanger larger aircraft than the existing hanger, provide proper staff facilities, and add additional storage space.

“By expanding our facility we will be consolidating aircraft into one facility,” said Corporate Air Center CEO Tim Lewis. “The working relationship with the Port of Skagit and their staff has been phenomenal. Growing the airport infrastructure helps all of Skagit County by providing facilities for existing and new potential companies to relocate to Skagit County.”

The project team includes Quantum Construction, KC Construction, Five Star Construction, and Blake Electric.

Dr. Kevin E. Ware, who has been serving as Port of Skagit Commissioner since 2001 said nearly 20 years ago corporate pilot Tim Lewis and his wife Ronaye had a vision for how the Skagit Regional Airport could become a key contributor to the area’s economy.

"We are breaking ground for a new and larger business aircraft maintenance and service facility than Tim and Ronaye built for Corporate Air Center many years ago," said Ware. "If past success is any predictor of the future, this will be just the first of many additional aviation related construction projects that will result in the Port's Skagit Regional Airport becoming the destination of choice from Seattle to Bellingham, for corporate aircraft bringing new business to the area".

Corporate Air Center is a full-service, fixed-based operator located at the Port of Skagit's Skagit Regional Airport. Since starting in 1996 the company manages aircraft for other owners and provides service and repairs for many more. The company currently employs a combined 23 full and part-time people.

The economic impact of Skagit Regional Airport includes 500 aviation related jobs, \$2.3 million in annual visitor spending, and \$60 million in total annual economic output.

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About the Port of Skagit: Guided by the mission "Good Jobs for Our Community," the Port of Skagit owns and operates three key facilities: the Skagit Regional Airport, the Bayview Business Park and the La Conner Marina. Combined, these three facilities are home to 86 businesses that employ 1,288 people.

