

ILS UPDATE

The Instrument Landing System (ILS) will be flight tested the week of December 20th. We are pressing for commissioning just as soon as possible after a successful flight check. We have been informed that due to the delays, caused by lost/missing outer marker parts, we have missed the January publication date for the procedures but we hope we can talk the FAA into giving us the procedures to hand out locally after commissioning. Please contact Russ Couchman at 927-8876 after the first of the year for status updates.

AWOS UPDATE

The Automated Weather Observation Station (AWOS) commissioning was completed on Thursday, December 16th.

Please feel free to share the frequency and number with your pilot friends from neighboring airports. The AWOS can be found on 124.15 and at 260-925-8225. Industry wide publishing can be expected soon.

Security:

- Hangar locks are to be an airport issued lock. This is so the airport has access to the hangar for routine inspections and for access in the event of a fire.
- A reminder is being issued to warn against driving personal vehicles onto taxiways and aprons. Due to safety and security issues, there are to be **NO** personal vehicles driven onto active aircraft operation areas at any time. The County Sheriff will issue traffic violations if the abuse persists.



Runway and Taxiway Painting

If you have been out to the Airport lately you may have noticed that the runway/taxiways are getting a facelift. Due to weather limitations the work has happened over several weekends and otherwise whenever possible. The goal was to at least complete the painting required for ILS certification. Still left to complete in the spring are black outlines on the runway end identifiers, hold short lines, radiused turns from the connecting taxiways



to the parallel, and removal of old paint. Airport staff has and will continue to work hard at minimizing the impact of this project on flight operations.

FAA Now Ready (sort of) For Sport Pilot Students

The FAA is not really quite ready to start certifying student sport pilots, but until it is ready, it has an ad hoc procedure in place, EAA reported last week. For now, aspiring airmen can use the standard application form (<http://forms.faa.gov/forms/faa8710-1a.pdf>) and just write in "Sport Pilot" under "Other." Inspectors and examiners will get complete instructions for dealing with the new pilots in January, but for now, the FAA says, they are required to brief the applicant about the limitations of the sport pilot student. In addition, inspectors and examiners should discuss the limitations of the certificate with flight instructors who are providing training to sport pilot students.

Special points of interest:

- The BOAC meets every third Friday at 12:30 PM. The next meeting will be December 17, 2004.

To obtain a copy of the last BOAC meeting minutes email your request to: rcouchman@co-dekalb-in.us

Airports Economic Impact Increases

By Bill Gisel of the Evening Star

AUBURN — The DeKalb County Airport has an annual economic impact of nearly \$17 million, according to an Aviation Association of Indiana report.

Airport manager Russ Couchman announced the results of the economic impact study conducted by the Aviation Association of Indiana, which is conducted every two years.

“The study shows another increase in local economic benefit,” Couchman said. “In 1999 the DeKalb County Airport’s annual economic impact was \$7.8 million; in 2001 it was \$10.3 million,” he reported.

The study looks at direct results such as payroll, operating expenditures and capital improvements, and at indirect results including money spent away from the airport at hotels, restaurants and other retail establishments. It includes induced benefits, which consist of spending and respending of money within the community, Couchman explained.

The airport’s \$200,000 annual operating budget is partially funded by fuel flowage fees, land leases and hangar rentals. The county supports the airport with semi-annual capital improvement bond payments of some \$225,000.

“The majority of the capital improvement projects are funded through federal and state grants,” Couchman noted. “The total annual expenses compared to the annual economic impact to the community shows a 25 to 1 return on the county’s investment,” he said.

“The airport is well-poised to keep up with the demands of the local community,” said Layden Rieke, aviation board president.

The airport expects to commission an automated weather observation station and instrument landing system this year.

“These two improvements allow properly equipped aircraft to continue to use the airport when weather conditions deteriorate,”

Traffic Study

You may have noticed traffic counters placed on various roads around the Airport over the last few weeks. These counters were placed by the Airport Engineer Butler, Fairman & Seufert to help determine what the traffic demand and flow is on the streets surrounding the Airport.



Help Keep DeKalb County Airport Secure

Through the AOPA Airport Watch Program, we have the power to reduce or even eliminate the perception that private airplanes pose a significant threat to the public. Protect our flying community and our freedom to fly while protecting our nonflying friends and neighbors by protecting your airplane and airport like you do your home and neighborhood!

Use your eyes and ears to keep our airports safe



Here's what to look for:

- Pilots who appear under the control of someone else.
- Anyone trying to access an aircraft through force — without keys, using a crowbar or screwdriver.
- Anyone who seems unfamiliar with aviation procedures trying to check out an airplane.
- Anyone who misuses aviation lingo — or seems too eager to use all the lingo
- People or groups who seem determined to keep to themselves.
- Any members of your airport neighborhood who work to avoid contact with you or other airport tenants.
- Anyone who appears to be just loitering, with no specific reason for being there.
- Any out-of-the-ordinary videotaping of aircraft or hangars.

Please send us your ideas of things you would like to see in the newsletter. Any newsletter suggestions or comments can be sent via email to: rcouchman@co-dekalb-in.us or faxed to 260-927-4048. If you are a DeKalb County Airport Tenant, send your ideas for articles in with your next payment. We thank you in advance for your articles and ideas.