

PRESS RELEASE

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Anchorage Airport Fire Department Granted FAA Certification For Fueling Safety Program

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(Anchorage)—The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport Fire Department recently became the first airport in the state to receive certification to teach the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Supervisor Fueling Safety Program.

In accordance with 14 CFR Part 139, the FAA requires that an airport maintain certain operational and safety standards as a condition of having an Airport Operating Certificate. The intent of the course is to ensure that supervisory fueling personnel recognize the importance of aircraft fueling safety and are equipped to instruct in the principles that will ensure safety during refueling operations at airports. Under Part 139, recurrent fire safety training is required of all airport fueling personnel and supervisors must have completed an authorized aviation fuel training course in fire safety.

“With as much fuel that is uploaded at the Airport each day, it is critical that fueling personnel receive the best safety training available,” said Anchorage Airport Police and Fire Chief Lauri Burkmire. “Our goal is to increase the safety of our workers, tenants, aircraft and the public as effectively and often as we can. The certification of the Supervisor Fueling Safety Program is a positive step in that direction,” she added.

The Airport Fire Department has always offered training to airport tenants but the program was not certified. Last spring, Airport Fire Officers Steve Daigle and David Farrell attended classes in Sonohomish, Washington to better understand certification and program requirements. Soon after, Officers Daigle and Farrell implemented a certification and training plan for the Anchorage Airport that included instructor qualification, course materials, testing criteria and record keeping requirements. The officers also received input from industry experts Moe Rounds, Mark Bennett and Dave Colrud from Aircraft Service International Group (AFSC). The Airport’s Supervisor Fueling Safety Program received approval notice from the FAA on August 31, 2005.

The Airport Fire Department will host its first certified class on October 20th and 21st. The 16-hour course is offered to Anchorage Airport tenants free of charge.

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