



## Spring 2011

If black boxes survive air crashes — why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?

— George Carlin

**Q: What's the purpose of the propeller?**

**A: To keep the pilot cool. If you don't think so, just stop it and watch him sweat!**

**On a Southwest flight (SW has no assigned seating, you just sit where you're able) passengers were apparently having a hard time choosing seat, when a flight attendant announced, "People, people we're not picking out furniture here, find a seat and get in it!"**



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## Airport Manager's Update

I hope all of you are enjoying your summer and taking the opportunity to get out and enjoy the weather. We have had some great golfing weather this year. As we enjoy the summer, albeit short at times in Minnesota, it doesn't allow us to forget that the winter season will be upon us before we know it.

That fact that the winter season is right around the corner allows me to bring up a topic that seems to be of concern to many Rochester travelers. Over the years I have heard many statements that passengers are concerned about making travel arrangements that include Rochester International Airport in their itinerary because of excessive flight cancellations and delays into and out of Rochester. What you may be surprised to learn is that in fact Rochester International Airport sees only about a 4% cancellation rate on all scheduled flights. While we realize that cancellations and delays can cause a disruption in your travel plans out of Rochester, based on current cancellations rates, we are confident that you will experience a positive experience should you choose to fly out of Rochester International Airport.



Now let's get back to topics that do not include discussions about winter weather (summer is too short to think about that right now). Many of you may have read articles regarding a new airport terminal that is currently a part of the airport's master plan. This process is continuing to move along, but I want to point out that a new terminal isn't "right around the corner". There are many steps that are involved in building a new terminal, the first of which is a financial analysis. Scheduled to begin this year, the financial analysis will determine if the cost / benefit relationship provides significant justification for the construction of a new terminal. Once completed, the financial analysis will be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration for their review and acceptance. Once accepted by the FAA (which is required for federal funding of the project), the next step would be to conduct a terminal area study, the purpose of which is to investigate existing terminal area condition, plan any necessary improvements to address the issues and/or develop alternatives. After the completion of the financial analysis and terminal area study, the airport would be required to conduct an environmental assessment to determine any environmental impacts the construction of a new terminal may have on the area. Once these steps are completed the design and construction phases could begin. Considering the steps involved, and the time frame to complete certain phases, it is thought that a conservative time frame for a new terminal to be built, from planning to completion, is roughly ten years, at which time the existing terminal would be over 60 years old. As the project moves along airport staff will keep the public informed of the progress.

Although the development of air service and the creation of jobs are significant priorities of the Airport Director, my greatest concern is safety. The airport will soon be implementing a comprehensive Safety Management System (SMS), as required by the FAA, to address specific safety concerns on airside areas of the airport. While safety has always been the top priority, with the implementation of a formal SMS program the airport is committed to begin building and promoting a culture of safety, to ensure a safe facility for our passengers, employees and tenants. Please feel free to report any safety concern or issue to my office, or you may call Airport Operations at (507) 289-4765. A safety issue or concern can also be reported via the internet by visiting <http://www.flyrst.com/operations/RSTsafetyreport.htm>.

The next time you visit Rochester International please take a moment to think about those who, on a daily basis, provide the Rochester community with a safe, secure and beautiful airport, individuals with a dedication to safety who make Rochester a great place to start your next trip.

Thanks for choosing Rochester International Airport and enjoy your summer.

*Steven W Leque*

Steven W. Leque  
Airport Director



## Airport Projects Update...

### *Construction Season...*

Rochester International Airport would like to thank everyone for their patience during the extensive terminal remodeling project. Although at times the process was difficult we now have a beautifully remodeled facility, ensuring the front door to our community provides a comfortable and visually appealing atmosphere.

If you haven't seen our changes please stop by and take a look. We think you'll agree the changes are significant (and amazing for a 50+ year old building).

As for upcoming projects, this summer is on track to be one of the "slowest" construction seasons we've seen for several years. The only construction projects scheduled as of the printing of this newsletter are one that will repair a few sections of asphalt behind the main passenger terminal, as well as tuck pointing and painting of the exterior of the terminal, and an airfield painting project. Although the airport does not expect that these projects will have an impact on the public or airport tenants, any impacts that are anticipated at the beginning of these projects will be communicated as necessary. If you are an aircraft operator please be sure to check for any NOTAMs prior to your flight.



New Touch Screen Information Kiosk

## Upcoming Events...

### 2012 Full Scale Emergency Preparedness Exercise

Rochester Airport Company staff will soon begin preparations for a full scale emergency disaster drill, to be conducted in the summer of 2012. In accordance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations, every U.S. airport with air carrier service is required to conduct a full-scale emergency preparedness exercise. RST last conducted a full-scale exercise in September of 2009.

The upcoming full-scale exercise will be conducted in accordance with Rochester International Airport's new Airport Emergency Plan, currently under review by the FAA. Although RST currently has an emergency plan in place, the new (or significantly improved) emergency plan incorporates National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant procedures, specifically in regard to the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Response Framework (NRF).

As with the last full-scale exercise multiple agencies from the surrounding area will be involved, such as the American Red Cross, Rochester Police and Fire Departments, Mayo Clinic, Gold Cross Ambulance, and a host of other support agencies.

Although the exercise is not open to spectators there is an opportunity for those interested to participate as "victims". More information regarding citizen participation will be provided as details of the exercise become available. Please check the airport website at <http://www.flyrst.com/operations/exercise.html> for more information. This page will be updated as information changes.

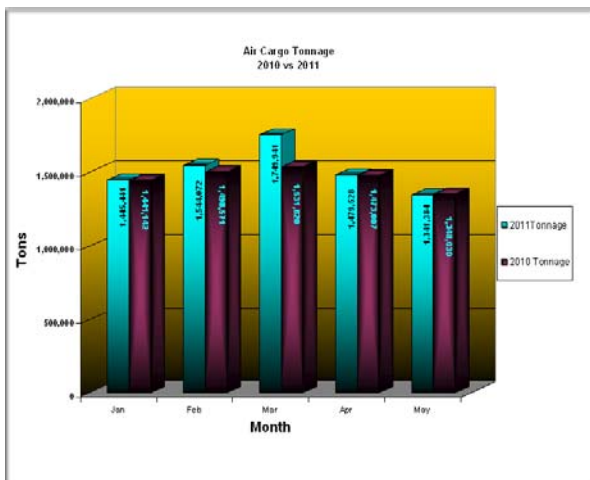
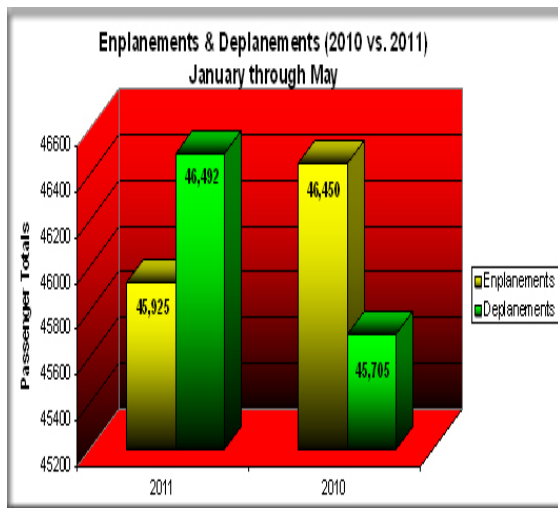
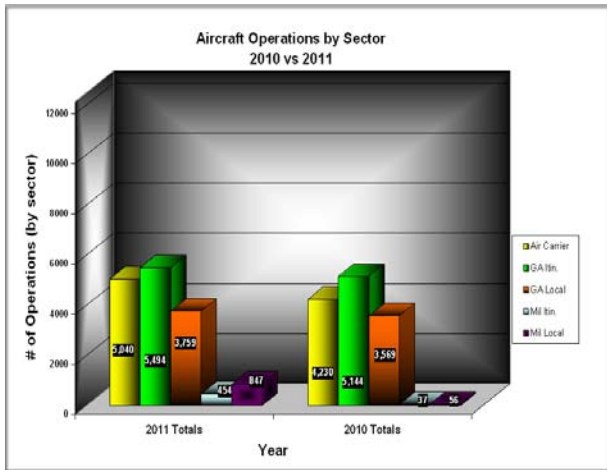
If you are an emergency responder or aviation professional and would like to volunteer as an exercise evaluator or safety observer please email Brian Thompson, Airport Operations Director, at [bthompson@flyrst.com](mailto:bthompson@flyrst.com) for more information.



2009 Full Scale Exercise

## Air Service Update

RST Passenger Statistics		
2011 Totals		
Month	Enplanements	Deplanements
Jan	8,940	8,791
Feb	7,995	8,040
Mar	9,675	9,402
Apr	9,240	9,614
May	10,075	10,645
June		
July		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		
<b>2011 Totals</b>	<b>45,925</b>	<b>46,492</b>
<b>2010 Totals</b>	<b>46,450</b>	<b>45,705</b>



## Public Safety Services

The City of Rochester Fire Department and the Rochester Airport Company Fire Department participated in a "live fire" exercise on May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. In accordance with 14 CFR 139 (Airport Certification standards) all airport firefighters must participate in at least one live fire exercise annually.

In prior years, the Rochester Airport Company has sent airport firefighters to "fixed" training facilities in either Chicago or Duluth. The downside of sending firefighters to a fixed facility is the inability to use our equipment (fire trucks) and gear. This year it was decided that a mobile training device would be brought to Rochester to train airport firefighters, with airport equipment they operate daily. An added benefit of having a mobile training device on-site was the ability to provide City of Rochester Fire Department personnel hands-on training in aircraft rescue and firefighting tactics and procedures. Although the City of Rochester has owned the airport for over 60 years, this is the first time city firefighters have been provided hands-on training in aircraft rescue and firefighting at the airport. This year approximately two dozen city firefighters, mostly battalion chiefs and captains, received this valuable training, providing the airport with additional trained personnel should a mass casualty incident occur at the airport. The Rochester Airport Company and the City of Rochester Fire Department plan on using this mobile training device in the future to ensure additional city and airport personnel are trained in proper aircraft rescue and firefighting operations.



## Trivia Time

Look at the picture to the right and answer the following 2 questions:

1. Where is this airport (City / Country)
2. What makes this airport different than any other in the world?

The first person to email the correct answer to [bthompson@flyrst.com](mailto:bthompson@flyrst.com) will receive a \$5.00 voucher to the 331 Express.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO CHAD NELSON AT AVIS/BUDGET, FOR BEING THE FIRST TO CORRECTLY ANSWER LAST QUARTERS TRIVIA QUESTION.**

**THE CORRECT ANSWER WAS: 1. Nepal 2. Lukla**

## Airport Happenings...

### Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following airport employees for their "endurance". Say hi to these individuals the next time you see them and let them know you appreciate their dedication to making RST a great place to work and visit:

Charles Forland	-Airport Maintenance	- 37 years in May
Art Klenner	-Airport Maintenance	- 31 years in June
John Jimenez	-Airport Fire Dept.	- 23 years in June
Dane Lund	-Airport Fire Dept.	- 23 years in June
David Butlin	-Airport Maintenance	- 17 years in January
Alex Olson	-Airport Maintenance	- 14 years in March
Troy Reed	-Airport Fire Dept.	- 13 years in May
Jeff Mulholland	-Airport Fire Dept.	- 12 years in April
Lynn Apenhorst	-Airport Maintenance	- 9 years in March
Nancy Curry	-Airport Administration	- 5 years in March

### *Rochester Airport Company Board of Directors transitions....*

The Rochester Airport Company Board of Directors and staff of Rochester International Airport would like to welcome Lisa Clarke as the newest member of the Rochester Airport Company Board of Directors. Lisa steps in as Secretary, assuming the role as a result of Misty Hathaway stepping down as a member of the Board of Directors. Airport staff would also like to thank Misty for her years of dedication and service to the Rochester Airport Company and Rochester International Airport.

### *331 Express Ribbon Cutting....*

On May 11, 2011 the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce visited the Rochester International Airport for an official ribbon cutting ceremony at the 331 Express. Those in attendance included various business and civic leaders, Mayor Ardelle Brede, the operators of the 331 and 331 Express, Tommy and Jimmy Karabatsos, as well as family and friends.

If you haven't had a chance to stop out and visit the new restaurant then you are missing out. The 331 Express offers a casual dining experience in a



beautiful and comfortable setting. Members of the public are welcome to enjoy the 331 Express. To visit the 331 Express without a boarding pass please speak with a customer service agent at one of the two airline ticket counters. You must present a valid photo ID to be provided with a gate pass that will allow you to enter the secure gate area where the 331 Express is located.

<http://www.flyrst.com/terminalInfo/restaurant.html>



## Badge Renewals

There have been several questions recently regarding the AOA and/or SIDA badge renewal process. Below are some of the questions that you may have. If the answers you seek aren't included below please call (507) 282-2328 and an airport staff member will be glad to assist you.

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**Q:** When and Where do I go to renew my airport issued id?

**A:** Tuesday through Thursday, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. You must go to Airport Administration, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the main passenger terminal, to renew your badge. If you come to renew your badge outside of those hours please keep in mind that the time to renew make take longer due to staff availability.

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**Q:** Why does the renewal cost \$50.00?

**A:** This question has been asked many times. The renewal fee is actually \$25 per year due to the badge being valid for a 2 year period. The renewal fee includes administrative costs (staff time, materials) and Federal (TSA) security threat assessment fees (charged to the airport on an annual basis, per badged individual).

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**Q:** Do I really need a badge? People who work at the airport know who I am and are willing to escort me to my aircraft.

**A:** Yes, according to Federal regulations, any individual based at RST requiring regular access to any airside facility must have in their possession at all times an airport issued identification badge. Individuals may be required to present their airport issued identification badge to TSA Security Inspectors, and those found to not have their badge in their possession while on the airport may be subject to civil sanctions being imposed by the TSA. This is **not** an airport rule, rather a Department of Homeland Security requirement that must be enforced by the airport operator.

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**Q:** Do I have to display my badge at all times while I am on any airside facility?

**A:** Only if you are a SIDA badge holder, operating in the Security Identification Display Area (SIDA). AOA badged individuals are only required to have their id in their possession, readily available for presentation to airport, law enforcement or TSA personnel.

## Tenant Spotlight...



Federal Express, headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee, is the world's largest cargo carrier in terms of cargo carried, and fourth largest in terms of fleet size, operating over 680 aircraft worldwide.

In 1978 airline deregulation allowed FedEx to expand their route structure, leading to the purchase of the Boeing 727. Prior to deregulation FedEx was only flying Dessault Falcon 20's.

Beginning July 30, 2011, FedEx Rochester will transition to the Boeing 757-200 aircraft for operations into and out of Rochester.



### Boeing 757 coming to RST July 2011

FedEx has a modern sorting facility located at Rochester International Airport, where cargo from the surrounding region is loaded onto Boeing 727 aircraft nightly. FedEx flights depart Rochester at approximately 10:00 pm, headed for the nightly sort at Memphis International Airport. Aircraft return to Rochester each morning at 5:00 am, where they are positioned until the departing flight again at 10:00 pm.

FedEx Rochester is open to the public. Check their website at [www.fedex.com](http://www.fedex.com) hours of operations and services available at the airport.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Many times airfares out of Rochester International Airport can be cheaper than flying out of Minneapolis. Factor in travel time, parking, baggage claim wait times, and security times, and your costs quickly begin to escalate.

Rochester International Airport provides a "True Cost" calculator on our website. Although not 100% accurate (we aren't statisticians/mathematicians), we feel that this handy little tool will give you a general idea of how much you can expect to spend (or save) on your next trip.

If you haven't seen this nifty tool please check it out the next time you are planning a trip. You can find the calculator by visiting [http://www.flyrst.com/about/True\\_Cost\\_Calculator.htm](http://www.flyrst.com/about/True_Cost_Calculator.htm), and remember CHECK RST before you book.



<http://www.flyrst.com>