



Reporting Points



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Salina Airport's New Runway Set to Open June 30th

Salina, Kan. - Salina's new locally-funded 4,300-foot north-south runway, under construction just since January of this year, will open for business in airport ceremonies beginning at 9:15 am Monday, June 30.

The new runway, designed for general aviation aircraft and designated 18-36 to reflect its directional orientation, will relieve runway congestion at Salina Airport's much longer parallel 13,337-foot runway and reduce delays for substantial military, government, corporate, transient, and flight training aircraft activities.

Growth of aircraft traffic from the Kansas State College of Technology & Aviation campus on the Salina Municipal Airport in addition to military training and flight-tests from Wichita's aircraft manufacturers will be better and more safely accommodated through addition of the new runway. There were nearly 100,000 total aircraft operations at the Kansas airport in 2002.

"The Board of the Salina Airport Authority was pleased to be able to finance this significant improvement for the region with its own General Obligation Bond funding, making it one of the country's few new runways paid for without using federal funds," said Tim Rogers, A.A.E., Executive Director of the airport.

The Salina Municipal Airport and Salina Airport Industrial Center covers 4,000 acres and is home to more than 70 businesses employing more than 4,500 employees. The Salina Airport and Airport Industrial Center are integral components to the region's economy and the state's economic development efforts.

Businesses and organizations such as Eldorado National of Kansas, Inc., Kansas Army National Guard, Kansas State University-Salina College of Technology and Aviation, Aerospace Systems and Technologies, Inc., Professional Flight Training, LC, Flower Aviation, Midway Aviation, Love Box Company, Salina Aircraft Services, Inc., Raytheon Aircraft Company's Salina Division, Salina Vortex Corporation, and Tony's Pizza Service, Inc., combine to contribute more than \$120 million in annual payroll to the Salina economy.