

The Columbus Airport Commission Names Richard Howell, AAE, as New Airport Director at Columbus Airport



Richard Howell, AAE

August 23, 2013—Richard Howell, AAE, will become the Airport Director at Columbus Airport (CSG) starting October 1, 2013.

Howell, as Airport Director, will serve as the chief executive officer, responsible for the overall management and administration at CSG. He will plan, direct and coordinate the work of staff personnel, and administer policies and directives of the commission.

Howell has over 20 years' experience in the airport industry, most recently as the Airports General Manager for San Luis Obispo County Airports for five years, where he oversaw the operations of two county airports, and made recommendations to the department head, county administrative office and Board of Supervisors regarding improvements and development of the airports.

Prior to his work in San Luis Obispo, Howell served as the Director of Aviation for the Waco Regional Airport in Waco, Texas; a position that he held for five years. Howell also served in the United States Air Force as a Master Sergeant for twelve years.

Howell is excited about the opportunity at CSG. "I am really looking forward to working with a group that is truly operating a full-service airport, with a real partnership between the FBO, police, fire and restaurant services."

Robert W. O'Brien, Jr., AAE, Executive Director (Interim) at Columbus Airport said, "I'm impressed by Richard's professional experiences and education. He brings with him a strong background in airport operations, development and finances, all of which will be central to the progression and transformation of CSG into the economic engine the community will benefit from."

Howell holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and has specialized training as an Airport Security Coordinator. He is also a private pilot licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration.

He has been very active in the industry, participating on committees, the US Contract Tower Policy Board and an ACRP project for Small Airport Marketing, and was recently on a state task force for transportation financial matters.

Howell was selected by CSG after a national search done by ADK Executive Search, a Florida company that specializes in the airport industry.

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