

## **State seeks proposals to create an Air Cargo Ramp at Dover Air Force Base**

*Land adjacent to the base would accommodate large civilian air cargo aircraft*

**DOVER, Del.** (March 19, 2014) – Plans for an expansion of the existing Civil Air Terminal at Dover Air Force Base have moved to the next phase, as proposals will soon be solicited from qualified private sector organizations interested in taking on the project through issuance of a formal Request for Proposals (RFP).

The State of Delaware, through the [Delaware Economic Development Office](#) (DEDO), and in cooperation with the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), Kent County Levy Court (Kent County) and Dover Air Force Base (DAFB), is seeking turnkey proposals for expanding the ramp area and load bearing capacity so that it would be able to accommodate large civilian air cargo aircraft and provide parking for NASCAR race related aircraft.

The state intends to enter into a long-term lease/development agreement with an organization or consortium of organizations with the capability of designing, constructing, financing, operating and maintaining the expanded facility at no cost to and returning the highest value to the State of Delaware and Dove AFB.

The Air Cargo Ramp expansion project will accommodate parking for civilian air cargo carriers that serve DAFB; the parking needs of the occasional civilian charter aircraft; and aircraft for NASCAR for two race weekends (eight total days) annually. The project would ideally provide parking space for up to four fully loaded Boeing 747 or equivalent size cargo aircraft simultaneously.

The expanded facility would have additional capabilities when it is not being fully utilized for Air Force operations. Using the base's state-of-the-art runway and navigation systems, the facility could potentially be used for other aviation-related activities such as an aircraft maintenance facility, cargo facility or other uses compatible with Dover AFB operations.

“The Dover Air Force Base is an important economic engine for Delaware and Kent County, one that provides good jobs that pay well,” said Alan Levin, Director of the Delaware Economic Development Office. “Enhancing the cargo ramp will bring more business to the aviation industry, and in turn create more jobs.”

The RFP is expected to be issued in late March 2014. To be included on the list to receive the RFP, contact [Jeff.Stone@state.de.us](mailto:Jeff.Stone@state.de.us).

**About the Delaware Economic Development Office**

The Delaware Economic Development Office is an executive state agency responsible for attracting new investors and businesses to the state, promoting the expansion of existing industry, assisting small and minority-owned businesses, promoting and developing tourism and creating new and improved employment opportunities for all citizens of the State. Visit [dedo.delaware.gov](http://dedo.delaware.gov).

**Contact:**

Peter Bothum

Delaware Economic Development Office

[peter.bothum@state.de.us](mailto:peter.bothum@state.de.us)

Office: 302-672-6857

Cell: 302-632-6665

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