Minnesota Airports Conference
April 24–26, 2019
Willmar Conference Center
Willmar, MN

Plan to join us for the 2019 conference in Willmar!

Conference highlights:
- Experts in aviation and aerospace fields sharing their experiences in general assembly presentations, workshops, and open forums
- Tour of the Fagen Fighters WWII Museum
- Technical and safety presentations
- Industry trade show
- Awards and recognition program
- Networking opportunities
- The Minnesota Council of Airports annual meeting

The Minnesota Airports Conference focuses on airport management, operations, and maintenance but is open to anyone interested in aviation. The conference is sponsored by the MnDOT Office of Aeronautics and Minnesota Council of Airports and facilitated by the Airport Technical Assistance Program (AirTAP).

To create a comfortable and inviting atmosphere, casual attire is encouraged.

More details are available at:
www.airtap.umn.edu/events/airportsconference/2019

Registration
The fee for the full conference is $225 if registration is received on or before April 9, 2019.* This price includes the sessions, breakfasts, lunches, breaks, awards luncheon, mystery theatre dinner, and prize drawings. The one-day registration fee (Wednesday or Thursday only) is $125.* The guest evening social fee is $35, the guest award luncheon fee is $30, and the guest mystery dinner fee is $50.

*Fees after April 9 will increase to $255 (full conference) and $155 (one day).

Costs for this event are reimbursable through the MnDOT Aeronautics maintenance and operations funds policy.

Room Reservations
Rooms are available at the Best Western Plus (320-235-6060) and Holiday Inn Express (320-231-2601) for the special rate of $109 plus tax per night. Mention that you are an attendee of the Minnesota Airports Conference when calling to make your reservation.
Minnesota Airports Conference • Program Agenda

**Thursday, April 25, 2019**

7:30–8:30 a.m.  
Breakfast and exhibit hall open

Exhibits will be open throughout the day to allow more time to visit vendors and network.

7:30–8:30 a.m.  
MCOA Annual Membership Breakfast Meeting

8:30–9:30 a.m.  
General Session: Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)

Get an overview of the FAA’s historical regulation of UAS, modern restrictions of their use around airports, and their integration into the National Airspace System.

9:30–10:15 a.m.  
Networking with colleagues and exhibitors

10:15–11:15 a.m.  •  Concurrent Sessions

Airport Design & Operations Considerations for Special Operations

MnDOT aeronautics has created an online tool that leads users through the considerations for developing a safe and ice control plan—including removal standards, stakeholders, equipment, funding, storage, and minimum standards. This session will also lead participants through a template for initiating a snow and ice control plan.

Connecting Airports to the Community: Last Mile

Pilots and their passengers travel long distance by plane to visit your community, but how do they reach their final destination? This session’s panel will discuss challenges, solutions, and lessons learned in providing “last-mile” connections.

5:00–8:00 p.m.  
Mystery Theatre Dinner

**Friday, April 26, 2019**

7:00–8:00 a.m.  
MCOA Board breakfast meeting

8:00–9:00 a.m.  
Brian Ryke

Join the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) executive director as he shares what’s happening at the MAC and in Minnesota’s aviation scene in this year’s award-winning session.

9:00–10:00 a.m.  
Airfield Tornado Recovery: The Twists & Turns

On September 20, 2018, an EF-2 tornado swept through the Faribault Municipal Airport, leaving a path of destruction that included all the city-owned T-hangars, the perimeter fence, the FBO/arrival-departure facility, and neighboring fields. This session will focus on the lessons learned throughout the ongoing recovery process—many of which could be applied to other types of disasters.

10:00–10:15 a.m.  
Networking with colleagues and exhibitors

10:15–11:15 a.m.  
It’s Broken and a NOTAM Has Been Filed…What Do We Do Now?

Suppose the airport lighting problem is more serious than a burned-out lamp? The equipment manual is of no help? You can’t find the “as-built drawings” and the local electrician is scratching his head? Come find out who to call for assistance.

11:15 a.m.  
Conference wrap-up and prize drawing

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Tour of Fagen Fighters WWII Museum

Come experience the museum’s pristine collection of fully operational, active aircraft and vehicles from World War II. You won’t forget this look into the lives and legacy of “the Greatest Generation.” Conference keynote speaker Harrison Smith will accompany the tour group.

Noon–1:15 p.m.  
Welcome and opening luncheon with Harrison Smith

Hear the inspiring story of how Minnesota Vikings safety Harrison Smith met his fear of flying head-on by becoming a licensed pilot.

1:15–1:45 p.m.  
Exhibit hall opening kick-off

Enjoy networking and learn about innovative services and products.

1:45–2:45 p.m.  
MnDOT Update

Hear the latest information regarding safety, funding, and initiatives at the FAA.

2:45–3:00 p.m.  
Networking with colleagues and exhibitors

3:00–4:00 p.m.  
Concurrent Uses and Land Releases

What are concurrent uses and land releases—and how are they right for your airport? Get these questions to answer and look how concurrent uses and land releases differ, what the pros and cons are, and what they mean for development at your airport.

4:00–4:30 p.m.  
Capital Improvement Program and Airport Funding

Get help to take the stress out of developing an airport Capital Improvement Program. The presenters will provide three key takeaways to make this job easier. You’ll get resources to answer questions about funding sources, financial plans, and preparing your board/council for existing and future project needs at the airport.

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