FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

COLORADO AIR AND SPACE PORT

AVIATION

Colorado Air and Space Port offers outstanding aircraft services, business and hangar development opportunities, and easy access to the Denver metropolitan area and Denver International Airport. Colorado Air and Space Port provides all-weather aviation facilities with excellent access to I-70 and rail lines.

AEROSPACE

Colorado Air and Space Port will serve as America's hub for commercial space transportation, research, and development. Horizontal launch facilities like Colorado Air and Space Port are developing around the world and have the potential to become the foundation for a global suborbital transportation network.

WHERE IS COLORADO AIR AND SPACE PORT?

Colorado Air and Space Port is located at the former Front Range Airport in Watkins in Adams County, only seven miles from Denver International Airport and 30 minutes from downtown Denver.

WILL ROCKETS TAKE OFF?

No. The application approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is centered on a horizontal, not vertical, launch. In 2017, we changed the horizontal launch vehicle focus of the Colorado Air and Space Port license to the Concept X, dual-propulsion type vehicle. The Concept Y vehicle was too challenging for the FAA to complete airspace analysis on and, with the FAA's very strong support, we agreed to change to the Concept X.

WHAT WILL A HORIZONTAL LAUNCH LOOK LIKE?

Colorado Air and Space Port will accommodate vehicles making horizontal takeoffs and landings. The vehicles will take off like traditional airplanes using jet fuel, but after clearing the spaceport, rocket boosters launch the craft into suborbital flight. To land, the craft drops out of suborbital flight and will land like a traditional airplane.

WHEN WILL WE SEE SPACE TRAVEL FROM COLORADO?

Gaining an operator's license is the first step in a layered process. A space company will have to apply to be licensed as an operator at the spaceport, and the vehicle that company employs for suborbital flight will also need to be approved and licensed.

WHY IS COLORADO AN IDEAL LOCATION?

Located one mile closer to space, Colorado's aerospace companies, educational institutions, and state leadership are growing talent and capabilities as the state's aerospace industry continues to expand. Colorado's aerospace industry contributes significantly to the state's economic output and includes:

- ✓ *290 aerospace companies and more than 500 suppliers and companies.*
- ✓ *33,460 aerospace employees and 198,220 workers supported from partnering industries.*
- ✓ *Nine of the nation's leading aerospace contractors along with major U.S. Department of Defense facilities, NASA research and development activities, and top-ranked universities for aerospace.*
- ✓ *$4.5 billion in annual economic impact from NASA alone.*

By leveraging this experience and expertise in the aerospace sector, Colorado is well positioned to play a key role in the continued development of private commercial space transportation.

WHY ADAMS COUNTY?

Located on 3,349 acres of land and surrounded by over 7,000 acres of privately owned industrial property, Colorado Air and Space Port is well positioned to take advantage of both the exceptional Colorado high-tech workforce and the outstanding connections available through Denver International Airport, located just six miles away. The location offers hundreds of acres of development opportunity just 30 minutes from downtown Denver and less than an hour from major research universities and laboratories.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO IS PD AEROSPACE?

PD AeroSpace, LTD. is a spacecraft manufacturer with business offices in Nagoya, Japan, and a research and development facility in Hekinan City. PD AeroSpace is developing a reusable sub-orbital spaceplane for micro-gravity testing, space tourism, and eventually point-to-point transportation. Their spacecraft uses a patented propulsion system with dual jet and rocket technology to achieve sub-orbital flight. The company signed a letter of intent with Adams County to use Colorado Air and Space Port for the horizontal launch of this spaceplane.

WHO IS DAWN AEROSPACE?

In June 2021, Dawn Aerospace and Colorado Air and Space Port announced a Memorandum of Understanding that lays out a series of future interactions that are mutually expected to occur between the two entities, but are not legally binding. Future actions include Dawn establishing a presence at CASP, working with CASP to create a relationship with the Federal Aviation Administration, and, eventually, conducting test flights and spaceplane launches.

WHO IS REACTION ENGINES?

Reaction Engines is a UK-based company formed in 1989 to design and develop the technologies needed for a new class of innovative hypersonic propulsion system — the Synergetic Air-Breathing Rocket Engine (SABRE™). Reaction Engines has completed a new high-temperature airflow test facility at Colorado Air and Space Port where it is running a test program to validate the performance of the pre-cooler heat exchanger technology. The facility will expose the pre-cooler test article to high-temperature airflow conditions in excess of 1000°C that are expected during high-speed flights up to Mach 5.