

BUSINESS PARTNER BRIEF

JANUARY 2023



Director's Message

Greetings and Happy New Year! We enjoyed so much success this past year, and 2023 is similarly filled with promise. Enjoy this edition of our Business Partner Brief as we share news, updates and photos. –Cynthia Guidry

Historic Artifacts Relocated

A major renovation is underway for our Historic Terminal. While the architectural gem of Long Beach Airport gets some needed TLC, we've had assistance from the Long Beach Historical Society archivist Alan Scardera in helping us carefully relocate some of our most precious historical artifacts into secure storage facilities. Other items have been temporarily moved to the Public Affairs office so that people touring the airport can still enjoy them. We are grateful for all the help we've received in safeguarding these pieces of aviation history, like Earl Daugherty's aviator cap!



LGB Business Partner Spotlight: Steven J. Meng, Long Beach Aero Maintenance

We're pleased to shine this month's Business Partner Spotlight on Steven J. Meng, owner of Long Beach Aero Maintenance at Long Beach Airport. The entrepreneur—a licensed airframe and powerplant mechanic (A&P) with an inspection authorization (IA) certificate—worked for Gulfstream for more than two decades before focusing full-time on his own business. Meng says Aero is a one-stop-shop for first-rate aircraft maintenance.



Q: Can you please tell us a bit about your company?

A: Long Beach Aero Maintenance was started as a side business helping to maintain a flight school in Long Beach as well as a few private customers. We have steadily grown into a five-employee company serving several flight schools and many private customers. We do annual inspections, 100-hour inspections, routine maintenance, sheet metal work, avionics limited installs and interior work.

Q: What do you enjoy most about working at LGB?

A: I love Long Beach Airport for several reasons. I like how it's relatively small, compared to airports like John Wayne and LAX. I love the rich history of the airport—many times, I have read all the historical items upstairs in the old terminal about Earl Daugherty and early aviation; I have also enjoyed hearing stories from a few of my old-timer friends about the days when Lockheed Constellations would fly into the airport. And I love flying out of Long Beach in my Cessna because LGB is close to the ocean and many other airports are nearby to fly to.

Q: Can you please tell us a bit about yourself outside of work?

A: I am married to the love of my life, Sheena, and we live in Garden Grove with our four children: Grace, 12, Logan, nine, and seven-year-old twins Levi and Londyn. I love seeing my kids grow and being able to expose them to the many wonders of California. I also love finding forgotten airplanes and rescuing them—I like to restore them to like-new condition, and I've structurally rebuilt three aircraft in the last 15 years. I also love to fly general aviation aircraft to new places.

Q: Is there anything else you'd like to share?

A: I'm just glad to have the opportunity to be where I'm at, doing what I do. This is my passion. I'm hopeful to be able to keep doing this for the next 20 years or so.

Southwest Connects Long Beach to New Orleans & Orlando, Adds More to Chicago

Southwest Airlines will begin offering weekly nonstop flights on Sundays from LGB to Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY), just in time for Mardi Gras season! To celebrate the first flight to Louisiana on January 8, Long Beach Airport will host the New Orleans Traditional Jazz Band to perform a second line parade—a musical tradition that typically signifies the beginning of a new life together—for departing passengers. Travelers going to New Orleans also will receive customized stickers commemorating the first flight. Originally scheduled to be a seasonal service only through March, Southwest has extended the service through the currently published schedule that runs through July 10.

And this summer, Southwest Airlines is launching weekly nonstop flights from Long Beach to Florida's Orlando International Airport (MCO), plus additional weekday flights to Chicago Midway International (MDW). Southwest's flights to Florida—utilizing the airline's Boeing 737 fleet—will depart LGB on Saturdays on a seasonal basis. Flights to Chicago, already offered daily, will now be offered twice daily on weekdays.



Atlantic Aviation Development

Atlantic Aviation broke ground last month on a \$14 million development to create an additional 30,000-square-foot high-end hangar space and 3,000-square-foot adjoining office space at their facility at Long Beach Airport. The eco-friendly design includes rooftop solar panels over approximately 38,000 square feet of hangars, estimated to generate more than 1.1 million kilowatts of solar power per year. A large public art installation also is planned as part of the project. The fixed-base operator's new and expanded first-class development will be located near its existing facilities on the west side of the airfield near Wardlow Road, where the company provides ground handling, fuel, hangar facilities and office space for business and general aviation. Slated for completion in the first quarter of 2024, construction is being managed by Aeroplex/Aerorelease Group Partners, an aviation property development, consulting and management firm that also holds an LGB lease.



Taxiway L Reopened

Improvements to Taxiway L were critical to the safety of our airfield and bring the airport in line with the latest Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) design standards. Taxiway L, which is the primary taxiway for all departing commercial aircraft and is adjacent to Runway 12-30, was reconstructed with concrete pavement, providing an anticipated service life of 40 years. The project consisted of multiple work areas including the area near the Lakewood tunnel, near Taxiways L1, L2 and L3, near Taxiway H, and adjacent to the United Parcel Service (UPS) ramp. Taxiway L was reopened for use in mid-December. Punch list items and demobilization will be finalized by the end of the month. We are grateful to our partners for their commitment to this project. And to our neighbors and other stakeholders affected by runway closures and noise, we extend our sincere appreciation for their patience and understanding.



Transitioning to Unleaded Aviation Fuel - NATA Webinar

Join Long Beach's own Curt Castagna, President of the National Air Transportation Association (NATA), as one of the featured speakers in a free one-hour webinar for anyone interested in learning more about the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) goal to safely eliminate the use of leaded fuel by the end of 2030 without adversely impacting existing piston-engine planes. The webinar will share details about the FAA's Eliminate Aviation Gasoline Lead Emissions (EAGLE) initiative, which is a government-industry partnership working toward that goal with fuel producers, distributors, airport operators, environmentalists and communities that support airports. The webinar takes place at 8 a.m. Tuesday, January 31. [Register here](#).

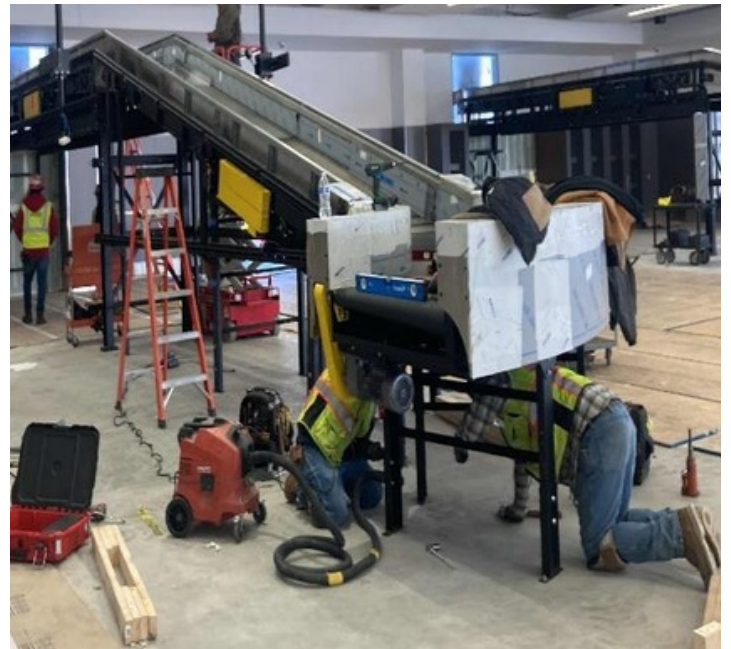


The Voice of Aviation Business

Phase II Construction Update

Take a peek behind the construction walls where the new Baggage Claim area continues to take shape! New signage placement, painting, fire alarm testing, HVAC testing and installation of the interior structure to support the baggage handling system and electrical work is underway. The new Baggage Claim is scheduled for completion by the end of spring 2023.

Last month, Long Beach City Council approved an increase of funds to continue construction of the Phase II Terminal Area Improvements Project. The increase was largely due to economic inflation and pandemic related impacts, such as construction schedule lengthening and resequencing, escalation of costs, supply chain impacts and labor shortages. The amendment also includes several passenger enhancements to the project scope, such as terrazzo flooring in the Baggage Claim, outdoor skycap podiums near Ticketing and associated technology infrastructure, customized bench seating in the Plaza and improvements to the Historic Terminal restrooms and related mechanical, electrical and plumbing infrastructure. A featured component, also included, is installation of a state-of-the-art video wall in the Baggage Claim area, displaying a variety of information and entertainment content for travelers. These remaining projects are expected to be completed by the second quarter of 2024.



LGB Tops Forbes' Holiday Travel List

At the beginning of the busy holiday travel season, Long Beach Airport was honored to be listed by Forbes Advisor as the No. 1 Best Airport for Holiday Travel in the country. The publication used federal transportation data and scored the nation's 100 busiest airports based on key metrics, including customer complaints, flight delays, cancellations, increases in ticket costs and more. Long Beach Airport's perfect score boasted: the third-lowest average airfare increase between the months of October and December; the fifth-lowest percent of flight cancellations on average; and the eighth-lowest price increase of just .25% on airfare prices between the third quarter and fourth quarter of the year, representing an increase of just 16 cents, the ninth-lowest dollar increase in airfare. We are so proud to receive this national recognition!



Seen at the Scene

LGB is doing its part this winter to make this the happiest season of all, with Airport employees, volunteers and commissioners walking and riding on our float at the recent Belmont Shore Christmas Parade and Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane Parade. We were thrilled to take home the “Most Festive Float” award at the Belmont Shore Christmas Parade, where there were more than 100 parade entries. Look for our float to appear yet again on January 14 at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade.



Continuing to spread good cheer, Long Beach Airport was adorned in holiday décor, honored to host Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, served free cups of hot cocoa in the concourse courtesy of Paradies Lagardère and arranged live musical performances by local artists.



Airport Badging and Dispatch Offices Are Moving!

Starting in late January or February, the Badging and Dispatch offices will be moving to the first floor of the NuSpace Building located at 4401 East Donald Douglas Drive. Please stay tuned for more details on the exact dates of the move. We look forward to serving you in our new space!

Historic Milestones

A decade ago, on December 12, 2012, our award-winning concourse opened its doors! Our concourse features local eateries, an innovative indoor-outdoor design and a spacious post-security garden. Check out the transformation with these throwback before-and-after photos during the construction process.



As the oldest municipal airport in California, we're very excited to kick off our 100th anniversary this year with announcements soon to come about various festivities being planned to celebrate the milestone. We officially marked our 99th year in November, and here's a look at our ever-iconic Airport back in the 1950s.



Airport Administrative Offices Holiday Closure

Long Beach Airport administrative offices will be closed on Monday, January 16, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Airport operations, security and building services will continue uninterrupted.



Cynthia Guidry
Airport Director