

BUSINESS PARTNER BRIEF

NOVEMBER 2023



Director's Message

We are officially marking our 100th anniversary this month at LGB, celebrating our special milestone by launching a yearlong campaign to increase awareness about Long Beach's rich aviation history and promote LGB as Southern California's most convenient and easygoing airport! Find out more about that and other exciting news in this month's Business Partner Brief. – Cynthia Guidry

Business Partner Spotlight: Kevin Liebeck, JetZero

We're pleased to shine this month's Business Partner Spotlight on Kevin Liebeck, Senior Managing Counsel for JetZero. We're so proud to have JetZero based right here on our LGB campus as it works to design a revolutionary aircraft with the potential to transform the way we fly and reduce our environmental impact.



Q: Can you please tell us about your professional background?

A: I've always been passionate about airplanes, airports and anything else having to do with aviation. My dad was an aeronautical engineer, and my mom was a historian and the biographer of Eddie Martin, an aviator who founded Orange County's first airport. So in hindsight, it's easy to see how I ended up here. Before and during college, I worked at John Wayne Airport, starting on the FBO ramp and then to the commercial ramp as a refueler. When I went to law school, I figured that was the end of my airport career, but thankfully I was wrong. After 20 years as a trial lawyer, and at the height of the pandemic, I got the opportunity to help start JetZero, and I haven't looked back.

Q: Can you tell us about JetZero and its operations at LGB?

A: JetZero is an aircraft company focused on the development of a blended wing body transport aircraft, also known as a "BWB." Though the airplane may look futuristic, the overarching concept has been the subject of extensive development over 30 years, including a full NASA X-Plane program that demonstrated the viability of the concept over more than 120 flights at Edwards Air Force Base. BWB aircraft are extraordinarily efficient by comparison to current "tube and wing" airliners, burning on the order of half the fuel on a comparable mission. Moreover, it can operate out of shorter runways and is vastly quieter, reducing community noise by up to 50 dB. The BWB works exceptionally well not only as an airliner, but also as an air-refueling tanker and freighter, which is why the Air Force has awarded JetZero a major development contract to build a full-scale demonstrator aircraft, which will fly in 2027.

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

A: It's tough to say what I like "most" because there's so much to like about LGB. It's easy to get to from LA or Orange County, and the facility is world-class with multiple runways, the longest measuring 10,000 feet. All of that is great, but what really makes LGB special is the people. The Airport administration and staff, the Economic Development department, Councilwoman Kerr and Mayor Richardson and his staff have been incredibly helpful and accessible from the very beginning. Our experience at LGB has made it easy to decide that this is where we want to grow.

Q: Do you have any hobbies or other parts about your personal life that you'd like to share?

A: I spend most of my free time with my family. My wife and I have two great kids, and our daughter is less than a year away from heading off to college, so we're making the most of the time we have. Other than that, getting outdoors as much as possible. Skiing, mountain biking and Muay Thai are some of my favorites, though with the pace we've been setting at JetZero I don't have much time for any of that lately.

Uplifting Festival of Flight

Our annual Festival of Flight attracted more than 15,000 people last month to enjoy approximately 50 aircraft displays, including a C-17, a KC-10 and a B-17—all built right here in Long Beach - and a P-51 flown by Tuskegee Airmen. Plus, Wisk Aero displayed its self-flying, all-electric air taxi at the event and even conducted a demonstration flight. We also enjoyed children's activities, historical information booths, live musical entertainment and excellent food and drinks. We're grateful to our community partners and military who helped make this event possible. This event was a great way to kick off our 100th anniversary!



Logo Marks 100 Years

We're so excited to officially reveal LGB's 100th anniversary logo, celebrating our centennial milestone with this colorful custom design. You might have noticed this logo displayed at the Festival of Flight in October, and you'll see it throughout the coming year around our Airport as well as at community events, on signage and much more.



More Anniversary-Related Happenings

With the official centenary date falling on November 26, 2023, the oldest municipal airport in California has lined up a series of events designed to honor LGB's rich aviation history, underscore its role as an economic driver and convenient gateway to Southern California, and inspire future aviation professionals. Last month's Festival of Flight was the official launch of the yearlong centennial celebration. This week, LGB is releasing the first of a four-part short film series titled "Flying Through History: 100 Years at Long Beach Airport." Each of the four films created by LBTV focuses on different aspects of the Airport's history, with the first one highlighting the era when planes landed on the City's shore during low tide. View the films at lgb.org/100th as a new one is released every Wednesday in November (excluding Thanksgiving week). Other highlights of the campaign will include: the unveiling of a large public art piece; a historic report; a new marketing campaign; a special 100th anniversary webpage with historical information; a vintage poster series; and a public open house for the re-opening of the Historic Terminal.

Update on City General Aviation Report

The Long Beach City Council requested that the City Manager work with the Airport to prepare a comprehensive report detailing the operations of general aviation at LGB, its ties with the City, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and privately-owned flight schools. As part of the report, City staff were directed to help summarize public input and orient the report to best address the stakeholder concerns and questions. The Airport's response to Council's request was presented in a City memo available [here](#).

Carbon Accreditation Renewed

Airports Council International - North America (ACI-NA) has renewed LGB's Carbon Accreditation! Announced at the ACI-NA annual conference, LGB renewed its Level II rating in the ACI Airport Carbon Accreditation program. LGB's carbon management plan includes pledges to reduce emissions from 2016 levels, on a per passenger basis, by 20% in 2025 and 40% in 2030. City leaders have set a goal for the Airport to eventually become a carbon-neutral facility. As we press forward with our sustainability goals, we are particularly grateful to all of our business partners who continue to make their own operations more and more sustainable. Please email lgbairpt@longbeach.gov if you'd like to spotlight what your organization is doing for sustainability!

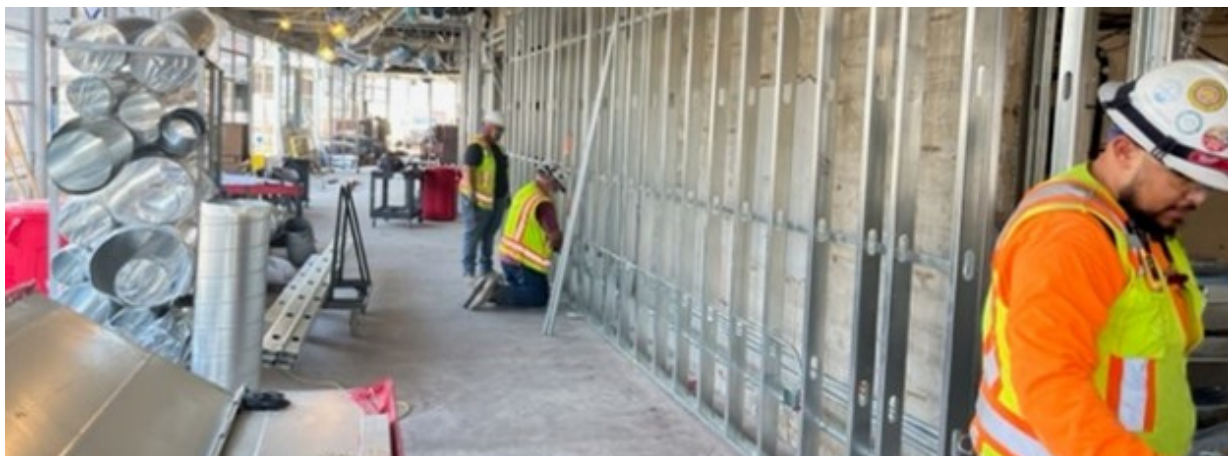


Phase II Construction Update

You may have noticed the new "Long Beach Airport" lettering on the front of the Historical Terminal. This is part of the ongoing work to carefully update and preserve our Historic Terminal building. Those words are now placed along the top of the curved canopy lip of the building, where lettering originally appeared back in the early 1940s. John Thomas, the historic resource consultant for the renovation, says the signage relocation brings the façade closer to how it looked in that period of significance. Inside the terminal, walls have been framed and utilities raised in preparation for restoration work. And across the plaza, work on the new baggage service offices and concession space continues to move forward. Installation of the metal roof was completed last month!



New signage relocation brings the Historic Terminal façade closer to how it looked in the past



Walls framed and utilities raised in preparation for historic restoration



Installation of the metal roof was completed

Seen at the Scene

Long Beach Airport stepped up as the official airport of the Long Beach Marathon, where we reminded runners that LGB can connect them with the fastest, most convenient options to reach their next race. We were thrilled to interact with more than 2,500 attendees at our booth. Plus, from LGB's maintenance team, employee Max Venegas ran in the half marathon event—way to go!



History Highlight

As we mark our 100th anniversary this year, we're looking back at Long Beach's rich aviation history. In the fall of 1911, as one example, pioneering aviator and photographer Frank L. Champion flew a monoplane an estimated 55 miles in 55 minutes, from Oceanside to Long Beach. At the time, it was considered the longest flight made on the Pacific Coast.



September Passenger Traffic

LGB served 308,764 travelers in September, representing a 9.4% increase in airline traffic compared with the same month in 2022. Those figures show that passenger numbers have recovered from August's drop due to wildfires in Hawaii and Tropical Storm Hilary. September's traffic also represents a 6.65% increase over pre-pandemic levels for the same month in 2019.

	Sep 2023	Sep 2022	% Change	Sep 2021	% Change	Sep 2020	% Change	Sep 2019	% Change	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Change	YTD 2021	% Change	YTD 2020	% Change	YTD 2019	% Change
Passenger Traffic																		
Enplanements	152,920	139,935	9.3%	90,921	68.2%	27,814	449.8%	145,542	5.1%	1,353,410	1,210,823	11.8%	687,436	96.9%	440,526	207.2%	1,326,997	2.0%
Deplanements	155,844	142,256	9.6%	90,439	72.3%	27,193	473.1%	143,960	8.3%	1,352,072	1,202,324	12.5%	685,168	97.3%	442,384	205.6%	1,321,859	2.3%
Total Passenger Traffic	308,764	282,191	9.4%	181,360	70.2%	55,007	461.3%	289,502	6.7%	2,705,482	2,413,147	12.1%	1,372,604	97.1%	882,910	206.4%	2,648,856	2.1%
Total Air Cargo (Tons)	931	1,121	-16.9%	1,322	-29.6%	1,104	-15.7%	1,563	-40.4%	8,873	10,138	-12.5%	9,988	-11.2%	11,498	-22.8%	15,434	-42.5%

Airport Administrative Offices Holiday Closures

Long Beach Airport administrative offices will be closed on Tuesday, November 7, in observance of Election Day. The offices also will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24. Airport operations, security and building services will continue uninterrupted.

Cynthia Guidry
Airport Director