



CHARLES M. SCHULZ - SONOMA COUNTY AIRPORT

Jon G. Stout, Airport Facilities Manager

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NEWS RELEASE

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Subject: Jon Stout Named Airport Executive of the Year

Santa Rosa, CA. Jon G. Stout, Charles M. Schulz – Sonoma County Airport Manager, has been named Airport Executive of the Year by the Southwest Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives (SWAAAE). The award was announced at the SWAAAE's 63rd Annual Summer Conference in San Diego in July. Each year the association presents awards to recognize the significant accomplishments of its members.

Stout has been the Airport Manager at the Sonoma County Airport as since June 2002. He was instrumental in restoring commercial air service to Sonoma County after scheduled operations ceased in October 2001. Under Stout's leadership, service resumed with the launch of Horizon Air in March 2007. Horizon Air began with two daily nonstop flights to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and a daily nonstop flight to Seattle International Airport. Since then, nonstop flights to Las Vegas and Portland, Oregon, have been added to the schedule. Since the start of Horizon's service in Sonoma County they have carried just over 400,000 passengers.

Stout states that his proudest moment at Sonoma County Airport has been "to bring Horizon Air to Sonoma County, and to see them succeed in their two years in Sonoma County and to have the community respond the way they have." Upon hearing about the award, Stout said, "I was practically speechless when I heard! It is a great honor to be recognized by my peers."

Along with scheduled air service, FAA air traffic control tower, CalFire, air cargo, private and corporate aircraft, military training, search and rescue, medical transport, law enforcement, recreational, security, and other operations occur at the Airport every day. Stout oversees the construction and maintenance of facilities at the Airport, including the terminal, a restaurant, firehouse, runways, taxiways, security areas, hangars, offices, and warehouses. A remodel of the outdated passenger terminal that will add 5,000 square feet to the structure began this month. The Airport is landlord to over 350 tenants who rent space for a wide variety of aviation businesses, services, and nonprofit organizations.

Paul Kelley, Fourth District Supervisor who has worked closely with Stout in bringing air service to Sonoma County said, "Jon is a fantastic Airport Manager; he has vision and is passionate about providing a great Airport for the people of Sonoma County. He is very deserving of recognition and this award."

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Phillip Demery, Director of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, stated, “We are proud of Jon’s acknowledgement and of the successful staff operations of our airport. He brings commitment and skill to a complex organization that provides a much-needed service to the community.”

Stout spent most of his early years in Santa Rosa, graduating from Piner High School in 1986. He graduated from the University of North Dakota (UND) with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Airport Administration in 1990 and received a Masters of Business Administration from Northwest Missouri State University in 1992. With additional training Stout earned the titles of Accredited Airport Executive (AAE), awarded by the American Association of Airport Executives in July 2007 and Certified Airport Executive bestowed by the Southwest Chapter of AAAE in January 2008. Prior to managing the Sonoma County Airport he managed the Grosse Ile Municipal Airport in Grosse Ile, Michigan from 1993 to 2002, a general aviation facility with a business park.

Stout holds a private pilot’s license. He was required to earn a pilot’s license as part of the airport management program at UND. His original dream was to be a commercial pilot, but the cost of commercial pilot training is steep, so he determined to make a career in aviation by entering the airport management program at UND.

About the Southwest Chapter of American Association of Airport Executives (SWAAAE)

SWAAAE is a regional chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE). It is a membership organization dedicated to the airport management profession. Since its founding in 1947, the purpose of the SWAAAE is to bring together professionals who represent public-use airports as well as people interested in promoting the general benefit of aviation. The Association’s goal is to help members achieve excellence in executing the highest standards of airport operation, safety and security. The Association offers continuing education through the SWAAAE certification and scholarship programs and allows members to advance their career through volunteer opportunities and networking.

About the Airport Executive of the Year Award

The award was instituted in 1953 and is presented to a deserving airport executive who has demonstrated superior performance in the following areas:

- 1) Provided public service to the community the form of an efficient air transportation
- 2) Public relations accomplishments in the areas of ‘Good Neighbor relations’
- 3) Environmental achievements in the areas of aesthetics, noise, or pollution reduction
- 4) Good business management in budget control, utilization of airport revenue
- 5) Efficient handling of the administrative complexities of state and federal grant programs
- 6) Management functions and good labor relations with employees and tenants; and
- 7) Personal integrity and professional reputation, both in the public community and among peers in the airport management field.

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