Agricultural aviation

Most general aviation airports in Iowa support agricultural operations. The application of fungicides and insecticides helps farmers increase yields and keep Iowa a world leader in agriculture. Approximately 4 million acres of crops are treated in Iowa each year by aerial applicators, boosting crop production by an estimated $214 million.

Air medical transport

When emergency medical care is needed, time is a critical factor in saving lives. The availability of transport by helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft supports advanced medical services for all Iowans. More than 6,000 emergency medical service (EMS) missions are flown each year in Iowa. Aviation is also used to transport healthcare professionals, organs, blood, and medical equipment.

Law enforcement

Law enforcement relies on aircraft to support many facets of its operations, including surveillance, pursuit, search and rescue, traffic enforcement, and prisoner transport.

Business aviation

Major employers and small businesses in Iowa use business aircraft to increase productivity, provide direct access to more communities, support flexible itineraries, and quickly customer response times. Business aircraft in Iowa report their top aviation uses include conducting customer visits, visiting branch locations, visiting vendors, and bringing their customers to Iowa.

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Aviation History in Iowa

Iowa has a long and varied aviation history. Among others, early pioneers such as Clyde Rock, the Wright brothers and Amelia Earhart hail from Iowa in their childhood years. Balloon and glider flights began in Iowa in the late 1800s. In 1933, John Knudsen entered the first powered flight by the Wright Brothers, the first powered flight took place in Iowa.

The remainder of the 20th century witnessed the development of a mature air transportation system throughout Iowa and around the globe. From the development of airports and aviation services to the introduction of modern aircraft, Iowa has experienced significant improvements in the education and safety of its air transportation system.

Several aviation museums document Iowa aviation history, including:

- Iowa Children’s Museum
  1502 W 12th St
  Des Moines, IA 50309
  515-285-2555

- Iowa Aviation Museum
  12 S Washington Blvd
  Sioux City, IA 51101
  712-556-4806

- Iowa Aviation Heritage Museum
  Army Regional Airport
  Ankeny, IA 50021
  515-964-2629

There are many Web-based aviation resources. The following list provides Web sites for various organizations that can provide information on aviation in Iowa and across the nation.

- Iowa Department of Transportation’s Office of Aviation: www.iowadot.gov/aviation
- Federal Aviation Administration: www.faa.gov
- Iowa Public Airports Association: www.iowaairports.org
- Experimental Aircraft Association: www.eaa.org
- National Business Aviation Association: www.nbaa.org
- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association: www.aopa.org
- Iowa Air National Guard: www.iowanationalguard.com/ANG/
- National Agricultural Aviation Association: www.agaviation.org
- United States Parachute Association: www.uspa.org

Aviation Resource:

Federal and state laws prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender identity, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or veteran’s status. If you believe you have been discriminated against, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 800-457-4416 or ICRC’s affirmative action officer at 515-239-1691 or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission at 800-669-4973.

April 2010

POSTIVELY IMPACTING IOWANS

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