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Brookley-based Aerostar celebrates Ten Years of Aerospace Support

Aerostar, an award winning 145 FAA/ EASA Repair Station, with a particular focus on Hydraulics, Pneumatics, Power Generation, Electromechanical and lavatory systems, is celebrating 10 years in Aerospace Support and Partnership within our Mobile's Aerospace community. To mark this exciting milestone, Aerostar has strategically chosen to celebrate at Flight Works Alabama, a Brookley-based aerospace exhibition and education center, spearheaded by Airbus and the State of Alabama, to grow awareness about Mobile's Aerospace Industry, which opened in Spring 2020 at the onset of Covid pandemic. Aerostar has rented out the entire Flight Works Alabama for their employees and their families this Saturday, June 19, 2021.

According to Aerostar's President Greg Guzman, the decision to promote Flight Works Alabama with their 10-year celebration party was a natural one. "Flight Works is in our own backyard and is the result of a public and private effort to celebrate Mobile as a global aerospace destination and help usher in the next generation of talent and businesses to the area. We're proud to help tell their story to the community as we mark our own: a local start up within Mobile's dynamic Aerospace community reaches a major milestone despite the challenges of the past year."

Aerostar operates in what is called the "MRO" sector or Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul segment of Aerospace and in layman's terms could be characterized as an auto mechanic shop for airplane components. Established in 2011 with only two employees, Aerostar grew to over 50 employees prepandemic and has increased its physical footprint from 6,000 sq ft to 30,000 sq ft. In addition, Aerostar proudly serves a client base of most all domestic carriers including FedEx, Delta, Southwest, Jet Blue and a myriad of regional carriers and businesses that serve the commercial airline industry. Flight Works Alabama's official opening coincided with and was overshadowed by Covid-19 and as a result sort of quietly operated without much fanfare, so much in fact that much of Mobile and even its own neighbors at Brookley Aeroplex didn't know it existed. Guzman hopes their decision to host their ten-year celebration party at the venue reminds the community of this exciting segment of the local economy.

While the Covid-19 pandemic crippled the global tourism and airline industry, this is not the first time the industry had to battle through and overcome obstacles, the obvious calamities being 9/11, which changed aviation forever in terms of security infrastructure and Aerostar's opening in 2011 was just as country climbed out from the 2008/2009 financial downturn. As the aerospace industry continues to strengthen in a post-Covid-19 world, Guzman sees this as just another reason to celebrate the

aerospace community "The past year has been challenging but we believe the industry is already coming back stronger and wiser, equipped with knowledge and innovations of improvement that raise our own expectations of delivery and service. The seeds for Aerostar's birth as well as our partners are a direct result of years and years of tireless work by the City of Mobile and the Chamber of Commerce to implement the right policies to attract companies like Airbus to Mobile and in doing so, create a supply chain to support it."

In difficult economic conditions, Guzman continued, one has to find ways to stay relevant. "For us, we knew that health and safety would be to aviation what security was to aviation post 9/11. In doing so we partnered with antimicrobial provider to help address those needs in June 2020. Cargo continues to be a bright spot within our industry and we are thrilled to be seeing travel numbers inching up again, with 3 months of over 1 MM passengers screened by TSA each day, a 500+% increase from last year's Covid-19 marked lows. Aerostar feels especially grateful and has much to celebrate."

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About Aerostar:

Aerostar, Inc. is an industry leading FAA 145 Repair Station and consultancy based in Mobile, AL, specializing in the repair and overhaul of hydraulic, pneumatic, electromechanical and power generation accessories to commercial airlines and civilian aircraft platforms including but not limited to Airbus, Boeing and Bombardier. Established in 2011 with only two employees, Aerostar has grown to over 30 employees and proudly supports virtually all domestic carriers including FedEx, Delta, Southwest, Jet Blue, Frontier and a myriad of regional carriers and businesses that serve the commercial airline industry. Please visit <u>Aerostar.aero</u> for more information.

About Flight Works Alabama:

Flight Works Alabama (FWA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, recognizes a community's economic growth and resiliency correlates directly with education. FWA's state-of-the-art education center strives to inspire visitors and provide opportunities for learners of all ages to master 21st century work skills and soft skills. At the heart of the center lies the Airbus Foundation's <u>Discovery Space</u>, containing more than 40 exhibits with an emphasis on hands-on interaction. The vision of FWA is a long-term impact on education and workforce development for the Gulf Coast and beyond.

To learn more about Flight Works Alabama, visit FlightWorksAlabama.com or their Facebook page