



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Airport, City and State Collaborate to Land SkyWest Maintenance Facility \$20 million dollar maintenance facility at Boise Airport to create 50 – 100 high-wage jobs**

**BOISE**, Idaho – The Boise Airport, City of Boise, the State of Idaho and the Idaho Department of Commerce announced today that SkyWest Airlines has selected the Boise Airport for the location of its new maintenance facility.

“We’ve been impressed with the collaborative approach Boise and Idaho leaders took in assessing and meeting the requirements for our new facility, and we know we’ve selected the right location to meet our fleet and network needs,” said Mike Thompson, SkyWest Airlines Chief Operating Officer.

The announcement comes following a visit earlier this year to SkyWest headquarters in St. George, Utah by Boise Mayor Dave Bieter, Airport Director Rebecca Hupp, Boise Valley Economic Partnership’s Jana Jones and representatives from the Idaho Department of Commerce and Jackson Jet Center.

SkyWest plans to immediately hire for and operate an interim facility at the Jackson Jet Center until its new maintenance facility is constructed. Groundbreaking on the new 100,000 square feet of hangar space and 35,000 square feet of office space is expected this fall.

“The SkyWest facility announcement is evidence of the significant role our Airport plays in not only connecting our business community to the world, but in driving job expansion and new investment here,” said Boise Mayor Dave Bieter. “Thank you to SkyWest for sharing our faith in Boise’s promising future.”

The SkyWest maintenance facility, known as Project Sky during the negotiation phase, is the first to use Idaho’s new Tax Reimbursement Incentive (TRI).

“When our Department of Commerce came forward with the TRI as a key tool to drive our state’s economic growth, this is exactly the type of project we were targeting – one that puts Idahoans to work with high-wage jobs and has long-term impact on the future growth for our region,” said Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter.

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SkyWest is projected to hire 50 full-time, benefited employees in 2015 to service the interim facility, with an estimated expansion to 100 employees over the 12-year term of the incentive. When the project is fully staffed, the economic impact to the state of Idaho will include new total wages in excess of \$5.4 million a year and new sales and income tax revenues for the state of approximately \$350,000 a year. The projected average annual wage is \$52,000, well above the average Ada County wage. SkyWest is approved to receive a TRI credit of 25% for a term of 12 years, and a community match from the City of Boise for more than \$2.5 million through provision of infrastructure build out and financing.

“SkyWest plans for its future, and our long-term Master Plan for development of the Airport, align perfectly and allow us to move forward in connecting our existing airfield to undeveloped land to the southeast,” said Boise Airport Director Rebecca Hupp.

The airline plans to maintain a variety of single and dual-class aircraft at the Boise facility, with several aircraft housed overnight in the final facility once complete.

#### **About SkyWest Airlines:**

As a leading air service provider offering global access to millions of people each month, SkyWest partners with the world’s largest network carriers including United Airlines, Delta Air Lines, US Airways, American Airlines and Alaska Airlines. With a fleet of 346 aircraft, SkyWest’s more than 10,500 aviation professionals operate nearly 1,900 flights each day to 193 destinations throughout North America. SkyWest is known for its industry-leading workforce, exceptional leadership team, and continued solid operational and economic performance. The airline is headquartered in St. George, Utah. Visit [www.skywest.com](http://www.skywest.com) for more information.

#### **About the Boise Airport**

The Boise Airport (BOI) is a department of the City of Boise, and is overseen by a seven member Airport Commission. A municipally owned entity, BOI operates as a self-supporting enterprise. No City of Boise general funds are used to operate the Airport. The Boise Airport's mission is to provide a world-class gateway that connects people with the most livable City in the country. Visit <http://www.iflyboise.com> for more information.

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