March 19, 2012

News Release

For Immediate Release

State of the Airport Presentation

2011 was a challenging year for the aviation industry and 2012 promises more of the same. Yet, at the Springfield airport there are signs of an improving airline economy — in January and February the number of people using the airport was up 10%. Against this backdrop, the director of the Springfield airport, Brian Weiler, presents the State of the Airport address on Monday, March 26.

"In the past year it's become readily apparent that airlines are undergoing seismic, perhaps permanent, changes in the way they do business," says Weiler. "For the first time in history they're shrinking route systems, rather than growing them. While Springfield has felt the impact of these changes, we don't expect any major changes to our air service. The airlines consider this a strong market."

Weiler will be joined at the podium by aviation consultant Michael Boyd. As co-founder of The Boyd Group, an aviation research and analysis firm, he's one of the best known and most sought-after aviation speakers in the country. He's also a frequent commentator for newspapers and industry publications, as well as the major TV networks. Boyd will discuss the specific challenges facing the Springfield airport and how those challenges relate to emerging trends in air service. He'll review the new economics of air service, changes in airline fleets, competitive strategies at specific airlines, and what we can expect in the future.

Please join us:

**When:** Monday, March 26, 2012, 3:30 pm  
**Where:** Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, 202 S. John Q. Hammons Parkway, Springfield, Missouri

The Chamber requests that those planning to attend RSVP by contacting Jen Johnson: jjohnson@springfieldchamber.com. Or call the Chamber at 862-5567.

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