



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF FLORIDA'S SPACE COAST

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Global Aerospace Firm to Locate in Melbourne

AAR Corporation to establish operations at and nearby Melbourne International Airport

Brevard County, Fla. (November 9, 2010) – The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast (EDC) is pleased to announce that AAR Corporation, an Illinois-based global aerospace company, has selected Melbourne as the new location for its airlift services and specialized aircraft modifications businesses, which the company acquired in April 2010. The business, which will operate as AAR Airlift Group, will relocate to hangars and facilities with combined total of 128,000-square-feet at and nearby Melbourne International Airport.

At full employment, AAR expects to house 225 employees with an average annual salary of \$65,000. The total economic impact to Brevard County's economy is projected to be \$42.3 million, leveraging a total corporate capital investment of approximately \$17.5 million.

AAR's Melbourne facility will focus on aircraft maintenance and flight operations. The company will provide flight training, aircraft modification, and aircraft maintenance services to support specialized airlift services primarily for government and defense-related firms.

"When we acquired Aviation Worldwide Services and its subsidiaries earlier this year, we shared our plans to relocate operations from their current North Carolina location, rebrand the business, and integrate AAR personnel to instill our values and culture very early on in the integration process," said David P. Storch, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of AAR CORP. "I'm very pleased with the progress our team has made on the integration and look forward to establishing operations in Melbourne. The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast and the State of Florida were very supportive of our efforts and the new location is exceptional in terms of weather and the talented available workforce."

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast partnered with Space Florida and the Melbourne International Airport Authority to secure AAR's commitment to locate in Brevard County. AAR considered locations in at least four other states before deciding on the Melbourne location.

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"AAR is a highly respected, very successful company and we knew that this project would be extremely competitive," said Lynda Weatherman, president and chief executive officer, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast. "We developed a creative package that showcased the Space Coast's core capabilities, including the tax advantage benefits of a Florida location. We are delighted that AAR recognized our competitive advantages and look forward to the company's success here at the Space Coast."

"AAR is a great example of the type of company that will help Florida diversify its aerospace economy to position for success in the coming months and years," noted Space Florida President Frank DiBello. "This company is well-established in the defense industry and will bring continued innovation to Florida's aerospace industry. We are extremely pleased to welcome them to the Space Coast."

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast developed a unique proposal to assist in the relocation of employees, included a targeted program for the purchase of new and existing homes. AAR was awarded a State of Florida Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund (QTI) to assist in offsetting the cost of relocation, employee training, and infrastructure. The Melbourne International Airport Authority awarded AAR the required local match for the QTI program.

"All over the country communities are working hard to land companies of AAR's caliber. We're fortunate Melbourne International Airport was chosen as the site for this significant expansion. It's good for Melbourne. It's good for the region," said Mayor Harry Goode, City of Melbourne, and Chairman of the Melbourne Airport Authority.

About AAR Corporation

AAR is a leading provider of products and value-added services to the worldwide aerospace and government/defense industry. With facilities and sales locations around the world, AAR uses its close-to-the-customer business model to serve aviation and government/defense customers through four operating segments: Aviation Supply Chain; Government and Defense Services; Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul; and Structures and Systems. More information can be found at www.aarcorp.com.

About the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast is a private, not-for-profit coalition committed to the economic stability and growth of Brevard County, Florida. Our stakeholders are existing businesses, industries and organizations whose leaders are dedicated to maintaining a strong business environment while preserving our community's unparalleled quality of life. The core work of the EDC is to assist business in all relocation and/or expansion phases. For more information, visit www.SpaceCoastEDC.org.

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