

Located in the midst of the country's eighth-largest aerospace market, Gilbert, Arizona offers access to regional infrastructure, low operating costs and the commitment of state and local leaders to the aerospace and defense sector making the community an optimum location for both small and large-scale firms considering expansion or relocation.

Arizona offers both Foreign Trade Zone and Military Re-Use Zone incentives which can provide the lowest effective tax rates available anywhere in the U.S. In addition, Greater Phoenix is noted as one of the 10 safest cities in the U.S. for the absence of catastrophic weather-related events allowing for 300 days of flying time a year.

Gilbert-Based Investment

Within the industry, Gilbert-based firms are excelling specifically in optics, satellites and FAA repair stations.

The community includes Fortune 100 **Lockheed Martin**, who established in Gilbert its lead business unit for research, development and production of world-class electro-optics and smart munitions systems. It is also the only facility in the Lockheed portfolio that provides field support for lasers.

Orbital Sciences develops and manufactures small- and medium-class space systems for commercial, military and civil government customers from its Gilbert, Arizona manufacturing facility and currently employs over 300 within the community.

Praxis Resources, formally SAI Technology, assists its customers with their production and test equipment challenges by providing custom designed and manufactured equipment solutions. Praxis continues to support avionics repairs for its worldwide customer base.

Perform Air specializes in hydraulic, pneumatic, electro-mechanical, and water and waste component overhaul and repair.

Regional Assets

In addition, more than 25 companies, including Cessna, Embraer and Hawker Beechcraft, are located only half a mile from Gilbert's border in the **Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport's** industrial airpark, a submarket that is surrounded by a foreign trade zone.

Recognized as the reliever airport for passenger and freight traffic for Sky Harbor International, Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport is noted as one of the fastest growing airports in the country currently serving one million passengers each year.

Commercially, the airport is developing as an international aerospace center with aircraft maintenance, modification, testing and pilot training. More than 35 aviation companies operate at the airport generating over \$685 million in annual economic activity. In addition, Gateway has been designated as a Foreign Trade Zone and a Military Reuse Zone offering qualified aviation companies significant financial savings through transactional privilege tax exemptions, tax credits, and reclassification of state real and personal property taxes.

According to population and growth estimates, Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport and surrounding areas will boast over 100,000 new jobs by 2035, making it one of the largest employment centers in the state of Arizona.

Workforce

Arizona ranks fifth among United States providers of aerospace employment, with 70 percent of the area's science and engineering workforce living within a 30-minute commute to the Gilbert community.

Educational Assets

Adjacent to Phoenix Mesa Gateway is a 1,000-acre education, training and research campus with Arizona State University Polytechnic, Chandler-Gilbert Community College's Aviation Division, U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory and U.S. Army Reserve Center.

Both **Arizona State University Polytechnic**, and **Chandler-Gilbert Community College's Williams Campus** partner with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and the University of North Dakota's top-flight training school, preparing the needed workforce in engineering, aviation, information technology and automated manufacturing systems.

The **Arizona State University College of Technology and Innovation** offers the industry access to expertise and facilities specifically focused on improvements and advancements, such as flight simulators, the Otteson Air Traffic Control Simulation Laboratory, the Del E. Webb Foundation High Altitude Chamber, Cognitive Engineering Research on Team Tasks (CERTT) Laboratory and the Aerospace Defense Research Collaboratory.

