



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 16, 2015

Atlanta, GA – USA

Aventure Aviation recognized as Georgia's Small Business Rock Star

ATLANTA, March 16, 2015—Aventure Aviation was recognized by the state of Georgia as a Small Business Rock Star today at a luncheon hosted by the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) and the Georgia Economic Developers Association (GEDA).

“Georgia’s small businesses have a big impact on every community in Georgia,” said GDEcD Commissioner Chris Carr. “This is an opportunity to put a spotlight on Georgia’s small businesses and in particular, highlight some of our fastest growing small businesses through our new Small Business Rock Stars program.”

“Aventure is honored to accept the Rock Star Award,” said Zaheer Faruqi, President of Aventure Aviation. “We have been supported by the State in many ways and have reached out to the Georgia Department of Economic Development for guidance on several occasions.”

“Last September, Aventure participated in its first trade mission trip to China which covered Shanghai and Beijing,” Faruqi said. “The Georgia office in Shanghai (Paul Swenson and his team) did an excellent job familiarizing us with business practices in China, translating and printing business cards, and aiding in preparation of company brochures in Chinese. They helped set up appointments and took us to meet several companies. We have already received five small purchase orders from an aviation company in Shanghai. Without this "start-up" help, there is no way we could have initiated the business relationship. Based on the recent success, Aventure will participate in an aviation trade show in Beijing later this year.”

Aventure has been the recipient of various other local, state and regional awards such as: Exporter of the Year for the State of GA – U.S. SBA 2009, Exporter of the Year for the Southeast U.S. Region – U.S. SBA 2009, Fayette County Small Business of the Year – Fayette Chamber of Commerce 2011, and GLOBE (Georgia Launching Opportunities By Exporting) Award – Georgia Department of Economic Development – 2014.

Six Georgia companies were recognized as Small Business Rock Stars during the luncheon for being an outstanding, unique and impactful small business. Winners included Guardian Centers (Houston County), Savannah Bee Company (Chatham County), Water Shadow Enterprises, LLC (Fulton County), Aventure Aviation (Fayette County), Madjax (Grady County) and TSAV (Athens-Clarke County). 54 nominations were submitted and reviewed and vetted by a panel of judges.

“With almost 98 percent of Georgia companies employing fewer than 100 people, small business has a big economic impact in Georgia,” said GDEcD Director of Entrepreneur & Small Business Mary Ellen McClanahan. “The Rock Star recognition provides the perfect opportunity to showcase how important small businesses are to the state.”



The Georgia Department of Economic Development's small business efforts and outreach are directed by GDEcD Director of Entrepreneur & Small Business Mary Ellen McClanahan. To access more information about these programs and more visit www.georgia.org/rockstars and www.georgia.org/smallbusinessweek.

About the Georgia Department of Economic Development

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) plans, manages and mobilizes state resources to attract new business investment to Georgia, drive the expansion of existing industry and small business, locate new markets for Georgia products, inspire tourists to visit Georgia and promote the state as a top destination for arts events and film, music and digital entertainment projects.

About GEDA

Celebrating 51 years of service excellence, the Georgia Economic Developers Association is the leading professional organization advancing Georgia's economic vitality. GEDA is a non-profit association of professionals, volunteers and supporters. The association provides networking and professional development opportunities for its members, and supports public policies that promote quality job creation and sustainable economic development throughout the state. For more information, visit www.geda.org

About Aventure Aviation

Aventure Aviation is a leading ASA-100 accredited aviation parts and services company headquartered near Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. With offices in Toronto, Dubai, Riga, and Istanbul, and representatives in strategic locations worldwide, Aventure's dedicated team is available 24/7 to support the ever growing demands of airlines and MROs for routine and AOG parts. Aventure's services also include OEM distributorships, component repair & overhaul management, and surplus inventory consignment sales. Aventure's modern facilities include a large, purpose-built warehouse that stocks Airbus, Boeing, Bombardier, Raytheon, and Lockheed Hercules aircraft parts. Since 2001, Aventure has earned numerous industry recognitions, including ATE&M's "Best Spare Parts Provider 2011" award. Aventure also has been ranked among America's fastest growing private companies for 2011, 2012, and 2013 by Inc. Magazine.