

# News Release

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## **Detroit Metro Airport to host business opportunity forum to improve diversity in aviation and airport contracting**

**DETROIT (March 30, 2016)** – Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW) will welcome aviation industry leaders and contractors for a special Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC) Great Lakes Regional Forum April 20-21, 2016. The forum will bring airport operators, airline executives, government officials and contractors together for professional development, networking and exposure to business opportunities in the region.

“Our team strives to create a culture of inclusion at Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports and within our community,” said Thomas Naughton, Airport Authority CEO. “One way we show that commitment is by creating opportunities for small, minority-owned, women-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises to play a part in our airport success story. Our involvement with AMAC exposes us to a diverse pool of talented partners we may not be aware of if we worked alone.”

“We are proud of our relationship with Detroit Metro Airport and pleased to bring our forum to the area,” said Shelby Scales, AMAC President and CEO. “We hope attendees will leave with a clear understanding of the business opportunities available in our industry, especially in the Great Lakes region, and how to pursue them,” Scales said.

During the forum, several talented speakers will share their knowledge about topics including the aviation economic forecast, procurement opportunities, construction, concessions, workforce development, access to financing and the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise certification process.

Online registration will continue until April 15 through the forum website, [regonline.com/WCAAForum](http://regonline.com/WCAAForum). On-site registration opens at noon April 20. Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are still available. For more information, contact LaVonne Turner at [LaVonne.Turner@att.net](mailto:LaVonne.Turner@att.net) or 313-268-6625.

### **About AMAC**

AMAC has two primary goals: to eliminate the barriers to minority and women participation in the airport industry and to capitalize on the opportunities available in this multi-billion dollar industry. Since its inception, AMAC has been at the forefront of nearly every national policy initiative impacting the participation of disadvantaged businesses in airport contracting. AMAC works consistently with Congress, the Federal Government, aviation trade associations, and others as a resource for information, education, and guidance on business and employment matters. For information on events, legislative updates and the most up-to-date news pertaining to the aviation industry, visit [www.AMAC-org.com](http://www.AMAC-org.com) or call 703-414-2622. For Forum updates, follow AMAC on Twitter [@AMAC\\_ORG](https://twitter.com/AMAC_ORG) and connect by using #AMAC2016GL.

### **About DTW**

**Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW)** welcomed more than 33 million passengers in 2015 and is one of the world's leading air transportation hubs. With service from 13 scheduled passenger airlines, Michigan's largest airport offers more than 1,100 flights per day to and from more than 140 non-stop destinations on four continents. With two award-winning passenger terminals, six jet runways, and an onsite AAA Four-Diamond Westin Hotel, DTW is among the world's most efficient, customer friendly and operationally capable airports in North America. DTW is operated by **Wayne County Airport Authority**, which also operates nearby **Willow Run Airport** – an important corporate, cargo and general aviation facility. **The Airport Authority is entirely self-sustaining and does not receive tax dollars to support airport operations.** Visit [www.metroairport.com](http://www.metroairport.com) for more information.

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