



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Communications Office

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SUBJECT: Duluth to assist AAR in identifying aircraft maintenance employees

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Career and Networking Fair Scheduled for August 29 and 30

[Duluth, MN] – City officials are working hard to help an industry-leading aviation company “choose Duluth” as one of only a handful of communities under consideration for a new aircraft maintenance facility. The Duluth Economic Development Authority (DEDA) and its partners, Minnesota’s Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), the Duluth Airport Authority (DAA), and APEX have been courting AAR Aircraft Services, a leading provider of aircraft maintenance and modifications services and part of AAR CORP., a publicly traded company with over \$1.7B in fiscal year 2011 revenues, to expand its maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) operations in Duluth. City officials are seeking skilled workers to attend a Career and Networking Fair to meet company representatives.

"We've made a strong business case to this world class company and we're on the verge of bringing hundreds of quality jobs to Duluth. But to seal the deal, we need to show availability and enthusiasm from a quality, skilled workforce. The success of our career fair will be the determining factor, let's show them what we can offer," said Mayor Don Ness.

City leaders believe the business would be a perfect fit for the former Northwest Airlines MRO facility, with its 188,000 square feet of production and support space. The expansion of AAR Aircraft Services in the MRO facility could bring up to 250 well-paying aviation maintenance jobs to Duluth in three years, with as many as half of those positions being created in the first year.

Danny Martinez, Vice President of Technical Services for AAR Aircraft Services, recently toured the MRO Facility. “The Duluth facility is well equipped to meet our building needs. The City, the State, and their development partners have stepped up with assistance tools to help us get off to a strong start. A key decision factor will be the availability of a motivated workforce with aircraft maintenance skills and experience.”

“We have already shown that Duluth has tremendous physical assets that can benefit AAR. Now, we get to show them our human assets. Having a skilled workforce is a major factor when companies are looking to expand. We are excited to help AAR identify people with the right skills for these positions

– people who want to work with an industry leader at an aircraft maintenance and modifications facility in Duluth,” Brian Hanson, Executive Director of the Duluth Economic Development Authority.

The company is looking for motivated workers in several areas including airframe and power plant (A&P) mechanics, sheet metal, avionics and interiors specialists, NDT inspectors, and Quality Control inspectors. Interested individuals are highly encouraged to attend a CAREER AND NETWORKING FAIR scheduled for August 29 and 30, 2011 from noon to 8:00PM at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center. Parking is provided at no cost for participants.

For those who cannot attend the CAREER AND NETWORKING FAIR, resumes can be submitted to aircraft@duluthmn.gov or you can fill out an online form at www.duluthmn.gov/workforce

AAR Aircraft Services is part of AAR CORP., a leading provider of products and value-added services to the worldwide aerospace and government and defense industries. 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.

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