NORTH SHORE JET CENTER TO LAUNCH NEW ERA OF SERVICE AT WAUKEGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT

News / Business aviation

North Shore Jet Center will assume FBO operations at Waukegan National Airport (KUGN) on October 1, 2026, elevating customer service and operational excellence for Chicago’s North Shore aviation community.vAs the airport's sole FBO, North Shore Jet Center will also join the Avfuel Network upon opening, providing customers with access to Avfuel's comprehensive suite of fuel, payment and rewards programs. The FBO plans to invest in significant facility enhancements, including remodeling the existing terminal within the next year and building a new executive terminal in 2031, further modernizing the customer experience while supporting the continued growth of Waukegan National Airport.

Skip Goss, the airport’s director commented: "North Shore Jet Center represents an exciting new chapter for Waukegan National Airport. Its experienced leadership, commitment to safety and

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customer-first approach align with our vision for the airport, and we look forward to working alongside its dedicated team."

As North Shore Jet Center prepares to begin operations on October 1, the Waukegan Port District also welcomes Steve Bowlin as the FBO’s general manager. Bowlin leads the development and launch of the new operation, bringing more than three decades of FBO leadership experience, and a proven track record of building successful operations and delivering exceptional customer service.

From day one, North Shore Jet Center will deliver an elevated FBO experience with a host of customer-focused enhancements. Throughout the year, the FBO will offer customer appreciation promotions and exclusive discounts, complemented by expanded concierge services—including a convenient "Text It, Get It" program for advance transportation, catering and hotel reservations. Refreshed food and beverage offerings, combined with attentive service for corporate, charter, military and general aviation customers, underscore North Shore Jet Center's commitment to providing a first-class experience with every visit.

Out of the existing facility, guests will also enjoy a comfortable passenger lounge, on-site rental cars, U.S. Customs assistance and ramp-side vehicle access with enhanced facility features to come after the remodel.

"Our goal is to create an FBO where customers look forward to visiting and employees are proud to grow their careers," said Bowlin. "Building lasting relationships with our tenants, aircraft owners, flight crews and corporate aviation partners will be at the heart of everything we do. We're committed to delivering safe, reliable service with a personal touch, creating a first-class experience for every customer—and we're excited to become a trusted partner for Waukegan's aviation community."

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As part of the Avfuel Network, North Shore Jet Center will provide customers with lucrative rewards with AVTRIP and competitive prices with Avfuel Contract Fuel. Customers will also benefit from transaction ease when using the Avfuel Pro Card at the FBO with the ability to put everything—fuel and non-fuel items with or without a fuel purchase—on one transaction, avoiding processing fees.

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