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**OSHKOSH – By the Numbers**

**SUMMARY:** Officially named EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, it is the world’s largest fly-in event, with more than 10,000 aircraft coming to Wittman Regional Airport during the week. Total attendance is expected to surpass 500,000 from more than 69 countries. The “World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration” features flying machines ranging from the smallest ultralight to massive airliners and military aircraft.

**HISTORY:** The Experimental Aircraft Association was founded in 1953 by Paul H. Poberezny, who served as the organization’s president until 1989 then chairman of the board until 2009. It has grown from a handful of aviation enthusiasts to an international organization representing virtually the entire spectrum of recreational aviation.

**ATTENDANCE:** The EAA estimated the attendance in 2014 at over 500,000, with 2,081 visitors registered from 69 nations. There were approximately 10,000 aircraft, 2,649 show planes, and over 900 media representatives on-site from five continents, along with 790 commercial exhibitors. More than 30,000 people set up camp in tents, travel trailers and next to their own airplanes. Countries with significant presence include, Canada (505 visitors), Australia (416), and Brazil (194) as the top three nations.

**AIRPORT & GROUNDS:** Oshkosh is held across 1,500 acres that incorporate Wittman Regional Airport and EAA properties along the airport, allowing room for aviation activities, 800 commercial industry trade-show booths and market places, airplane parking and camping, recreational camping and support facilities.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:** In 2008, a UW-Oshkosh Center for Community Partnerships study showed a \$110 million economic impact for the Oshkosh area. Of that, \$84 million was direct impact with a \$26 million multiplier from secondary spending. Additionally, the fly in provided 1,700 jobs and \$39 million in labor income for Winnebago, Outagamie and Fond du Lac counties.

**AIR TRAFFIC:** The large number of aircraft arrivals and departures during the fly-in week makes the Wittman Field FAA Control Tower the busiest in the world for that week in number of movements. FAA air traffic staff, including controllers, supervisors, and managers, compete throughout the FAA's 17-state Central Terminal Service Area to work the event. In 2008, 172 air traffic professionals

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representing 56 facilities volunteered to staff the facilities at Oshkosh (OSH), Fond du Lac (FLD), and Fisk.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Over 5,000 volunteers invest 250,000 hours over several months to make Oshkosh happen. The tasks they perform range from parking cars and airplanes, to painting buildings, to helping set up and tear down concerts and shows presented by the EAA.

**DISPLAY AIRPLANES:** In 2014, 2,649 airplanes – including 997 homebuilt aircraft, 1,050 vintage airplanes, 303 warbirds, 122 ultralights and light-sport aircraft, 91 seaplanes, 40 rotorcraft, 38 aerobatic aircraft and 8 hot-air balloons.

**MEDIA COVERAGE:** More than 700 journalists representing more than 250 media outlets annually attend AirVenture, bringing coverage of The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration to local, regional, national, and international audiences.

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