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## **Portsmouth Int'l Manager Installed as New NECAAAE President**

*Hopper to lead Airport Executives from NE, Canada and Europe*

(Portsmouth) The Northeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives (NECAAAE) has appointed Portsmouth International Airport (PSM) Manager Bill Hopper as its President for 2007-2008. He was officially installed at the Northeast Chapter's Annual Conference in Pittsburgh on August 7.



Hopper takes over during an interesting time for NECAAAE as the organization prepares to celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008. "A group of airport managers formed the Northeast Chapter in 1958 in response to the need they saw to help foster a better understanding of airport-related problems," he said. "Now a half-century later, we continue to share their commitment to aviation and safe skies, but we've also embraced being a key player in regulatory reforms, securing funding for the aviation industry, and mentoring the next generation of airport managers."

"Clearly, we consider one NEC's most important duties as communicating with our representatives on the federal level, such as Congress, the FAA and the TSA, to help them understand the impact some of their proposals have on our industry's bottom line without measurable enhancement to aviation safety and security," he added.

Hopper has served as PSM's Manager since 2005. He began his career as an air traffic controller with the Marine Corps. Upon leaving the service he worked as an Operations Supervisor at airports in both Omaha, NE and Binghamton, NY, then joined PSM in 1994 as Deputy Airport Manager. Hopper is an accredited Airport Executive with the AAAE and was recently appointed to the state's *Aviation Users Advisory Board* by the governor and council.

The NECAAAE is a regional organization of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE). It is comprised of managers, commission/board members, engineers and others interested in the development and operation of airports located in twelve northeast states, the Canadian Maritime Provinces and Quebec as well as Europe. The group is perhaps best known for sponsoring the "Aviation Snow Symposium" held each spring in Buffalo, NY.