



611 Anton Blvd, Suite 140
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714-436-0855
IdeaHall.com

Southern California Logistics Airport: Ready For Round 2!

The City of Victorville recently announced that Southern California Logistics Airport (SCLA) is nearly 100 percent leased. Since the airport transitioned from George Air Force Base to SCLA, Victorville has overseen the build-out and leasing of approximately 3.5 million square feet of industrial space at the airport. Phase Two of the City's growth plan for the airport involves attracting build-to-suit tenants to continue the development of this growing industrial and aerospace hub.

Aviation Business Week sat down with Keith Metzler, Assistant City Manager at the City of Victorville, to learn about SCLA's growth and what it means for companies that are looking to operate at one of the country's largest logistics airports.

Aviation Business Daily: Congratulations on approaching the 100 percent leased mark at SCLA. What leasing activity has brought you to this milestone?

Metzler: SCLA's industrial, aerospace and logistics activity began in February 2001, with a 22-acre ground lease to the High Desert Power Project to construct a \$350 million, 750-megawatt power generating facility.

From there, SCLA attracted a 13.5-acre ground lease with General Electric in 2002; a 450,000-square-foot lease with Newell Rubbermaid in 2007; four build-to-suit hangar projects for Leading Edge Aviation Services, Pratt Whitney, FedEx and Victorville Aerospace in 2007; and a 300,000-square-foot lease with Plastipak Packaging in 2009.

ABD: And Dr. Pepper. That must have been exciting landmark deal for Victorville...

KM: Dr. Pepper is a great test case for Victorville's strong build-to-suit capabilities. In 2010, Dr. Pepper Snapple Group completed the construction of its 850,000-square-foot manufacturing and warehouse facility at SCLA to serve its entire West Coast beverage-consuming demand. We were able to meet some of Dr. Pepper's unique utilities requirements with domestic and reclaimed water service, domestic and industrial waste water service, and savings on electricity and natural gas.

In 2011, M&M/Mars located its refrigerated candy warehouse operation to about 500,000 square feet of space at SCLA, solidifying the airport as a location of choice for heavy hitters in the food and beverage industry.

ABD: Besides industrial activity at SCLA, what aerospace services do you support?

KM: SCLA is a 2,500-acre hub for aircraft storage, aircraft parts warehousing, jet engine testing, flight testing, UAS pilot training, non-scheduled passenger charter, aircraft painting and MRO services.

Recent leasing activity includes a 100,000-square-foot lease with Boeing to help co-locate three of its growing operating divisions: Boeing Capital, Boeing AOG and Boeing Flight Test. Boeing's space at SCLA houses aircraft transition and modification services,



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including modification with upgraded electronics and inflight entertainment, as well as structural repairs for Boeing customers from around the world and the instillation of buyer furnished equipment on new aircraft.

Clients choose SCLA for its 15,050-foot runway and direct access to key markets. Its air traffic control tower operates seven days per week and can accommodate all current commercial and military aircraft. And Victorville's 360 days of "severe clear" are unbeatable when it comes to consistency and year-round productivity.