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### ***Jobs Increasing at Williams Gateway Airport***

MESA, ARIZ. --- Williams Gateway Airport has increased Airport-based jobs from 825 in October 2003 to 1,140 in October 2004, a 38% increase. The Williams Air Force Base conversion is one of the most successful projects in the nation in terms of new jobs created and economic activity generated.

"Williams Gateway Airport continues to grow in jobs created, economic impacts, and aircraft operations," said WGAA Executive Director Lynn Kusy. "The Arizona Department of Transportation conducted an economic impact study in 2002 which indicates the Airport contributes over \$251 million to the local economy each year."

Williams Gateway Airport has been so successful in attracting businesses, the Airport's existing facilities are currently 95% leased. To keep up with the demand, Himovitz Properties Inc., a private developer, has built over 65,000 square feet of new space and is currently constructing a new 25,000 square foot cargo handling facility and another 17,000 square foot hangar/office complex.

Fred Himovitz, President of Himovitz Properties. Inc., has seen this evolution before and expects Williams Gateway Airport to surpass the successes he has seen from other emerging industrial centers such as the Scottsdale Industrial Airpark. "I participated in its development during the 1980s and the Industrial Park is now the business and commercial jewel of Scottsdale. Williams Gateway will evolve into an even greater economic engine since it has so much more in place already and it will mature faster," said Mr. Himovitz.

Williams Gateway Airport is Arizona's 2004 'Airport of the Year' and is owned and operated by the Williams Gateway Airport Authority that includes the Gila River Indian Community, Gilbert, Mesa and Queen Creek. For more information, visit [www.flywga.org](http://www.flywga.org).