

March 21, 2007  
For immediate release

## **Cutting edge fire truck goes into operation at Brunswick airport**

There's a new fire truck at Glynn County Fire Station #5. But this is not your ordinary, run-of-the-mill fire fighting vehicle. Because Station #5 is located at the Brunswick Golden Isles Airport, specific aircraft rescue and fire fighting tools and capabilities are required on the truck.

The \$700,000 truck provides several fire fighting options when responding to an aircraft emergency. It's capable of handling 1,500 gallons of water, 210 gallons of foam concentrate, and 500 pounds of dry chemical. And it's equipped with an infrared system that lets fire fighters work in severe weather, fog, thick smoke – even in total darkness.

“With flammable liquids on the plane, that's when you want to use your foam and dry chemicals, because of their extinguishing capabilities,” said Glynn County Fire Chief Al Thomas. “The foam forms a blanket over the flammable liquids, which helps to smother them and keep them from being readily ignited.”

“It was time for us to upgrade to newer technologies and a better response capability to airport incidents,” said Colette Edmisten, Glynn County Airport Commission operations coordinator. “In addition, this truck satisfies Federal Aviation Administration requirements for commercial service airports.”

Before the fire truck could be put into service on March 15, every fire fighter who is certified to work at the airport went through hands-on training, learning to drive and operate the technologically advanced vehicle. “There's a lot to learn on that truck. “They needed to go through the truck front to back and top to bottom,” said Thomas, adding, “This truck gives us a lot more capability than we had in the past. It gives us a great tool that we hope we never have to use.”

Station #5 is responsible for responding to airport emergencies both on and off the airfield. The new truck, purchased with federal funding by the Glynn County Airport Commission, was built by Wisconsin-based Oshkosh Truck Corp.

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The Glynn County Airport Commission operates the Brunswick Golden Isles Airport and McKinnon St. Simons Island Airport.

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