

## Press Release

### **COORDINATED FIRE EFFORT AT MCCLELLAN AIRPORT**

**McClellan, CA (July 1, 2008)** – For the first time in 20 years, eight fully-loaded C-130's deployed to battle wildfires are mobilized at one time. This is in response to the Governor's call for assistance from the National Guard to fight the many recent fires in California.

Stationed at McClellan Airport, MAFFS (Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System) are self-contained aerial fire retardant dispersal systems that can hold up to 3000 gallons of retardant and are installed in military C-130 aircraft. They are designed to slow the rate of spread of a wildfire to allow ground crews time to establish containment lines around the fire perimeter. The MAFFS operations at McClellan Airport are being supported by Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Units from California and three other states including Colorado, North Carolina and Wyoming. Civilian personnel from Cal Fire and the USDA Forest Service are coordinating logistical and other needs of the military operations.

“McClellan Airport is an ideal location for us. We have been able to utilize the abundant ramp space and 10,700 ft runway at McClellan Airport. McClellan Jet Services (MJS) has made the MAFFS Operation possible,” said Mike Padilla, Chief of Aviation, Cal Fire. “McClellan Airport's mid-state location has offered operational flexibility for going North and South, providing great coverage.”

As a former air force base, McClellan Airport is well-suited to handle the aircrafts continuous operations and allows for more efficient military operations. The MAFFS Operation at McClellan Airport features numerous mobile fire retardant pits and takes advantage of a two mile runway with plenty of space for eight aircraft.

In addition to leasing space and supplying ground support equipment, MJS is also providing fuel and cleaning services after missions.

“Cal Fire is excited about the partnership with MJS to provide fire suppression support in this unprecedented fire season. MJS has been able to provide us with every piece of infrastructure we’ve needed to complete this operation. This is one of the worst starts to a fire season we’ve seen with a number of lightening strikes spread out over a larger geographic area than previous years,” said Tom Hoffman, MAFFS Liaison Officer.

Since airborne missions began June 26, Aircrews have dropped approximately 117,000 gallons of fire retardant. Members and aircraft of the 302nd Air Expeditionary Group are now based at the McClellan Airport, which allows these military transport aircraft to fly with maximum fuel loads and MAFFS to operate with full fire retardant capability.

Beginning last year during the fire season, McClellan Airport began serving as a staging base providing services for and facilitating Fire Retardant Reloading for Cal Fire’s contract DC-10 Air Tanker. Cal Fire has recently applied for and was granted a temporary Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) control tower, which became operation on 6/28, bringing a higher level of efficiency and safety to McClellan Airport.

McClellan Airport is the most successful base conversion in the US and is home of the largest Fixed Base Operator (FBO) in the greater Sacramento region, one of the largest in Northern California. MJS is responsible for the aviation property management, leasing and marketing at McClellan and plays an integral role in the development of the airport. This fully-operational airport has become the Gateway to Business and General Aviation for the Sacramento region. McClellan Airport features a 10,700 ft runway, full IFR instrument approach and has the only 24/7/365 FBO in the Sacramento Valley with more than 1.5 million SF of aviation property.

The County of Sacramento selected McClellan Business Park, LLC, in 1999 to acquire and redevelop McClellan Air Force Base. McClellan Air Force Base was renamed McClellan Business Park (McClellan Park) in 2001. McClellan Park boasts a fully-operational airfield, full-service hotel, fitness facility, rail system, office, industrial, retail and

dormitories. The project consists of 3,000 acres with approximately 8.5 million square feet of useable buildings and 500 acres of developable land and is fully entitled for over 16 million square feet of commercial, retail, office and residential buildings. For additional information, please visit McClellan Business Park's website at

<http://www.mcclellanpark.com>.

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