

The Valley International Airport Board Announces New Appointment for Director of Aviation



Marvin R. "Marv" Esterly

HARLINGEN, TX – The Valley International Airport Board has named Marv Esterly as the new Director of Aviation at the Valley International Airport (HRL) in Harlingen, TX.

Esterly is the current Director of Airports for the City of Midland, Texas, and has been in that position for fifteen years. Prior to that, he served as their Deputy Director of Airports for ten years. He is slated to begin his new role at Valley International on January 2, 2015.

Esterly will replace current Aviation Director Michael Browning, who said in July that he would retire effective Dec. 31, after 25

years at VIA.

Esterly brings 27 years of aviation management experience to the job, and also served as an Air Traffic Control Supervisor with the United States Marine Corps.

"I am very excited for this opportunity to work with the Airport board members and staff in this leadership role," said Esterly. "The Valley International Airport has great potential to grow airline service both domestically and internationally. I look forward to working with the business community to ensure Valley International Airport becomes a catalyst for economic development in the region."

According to the City of Midland, Esterly played a crucial role in securing a spaceport designation this year from the Federal Aviation Administration, creating a new future for Midland's airport as what is now known as the Midland International Air & Space Port. His collaboration with local and federal officials led to Midland becoming the first spaceport ever to be connected to a commercial airport.

Airport Board Chairman Richard Franke said Esterly has an extensive knowledge of the aviation and airport industry.

"I am very pleased, along with the entire airport board, that Marv Esterly has accepted the position of Director of Aviation for VIA," said Franke. He brings with him a great deal of experience and knowledge that will help to keep VIA moving forward as the number one airport in the Rio Grande Valley. I look forward to him being on site just after the first of the year."

Esterly holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Management from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois and has received numerous prestigious industry awards.

This search was conducted by ADK Executive Search, a retained executive search firm specializing exclusively in searches for the airport management community.

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