



MOJAVE
AIR & SPACE PORT

East Kern Airport District Invites Applications for
Director of Planning & Engineering

Mojave Air & Space Port (MHV)

Mojave, California

Executive Search Services Provided by ADK Consulting & Executive Search

The Mojave Air & Space Port

The Mojave Airport was first opened in 1935 as a small, rural airfield serving the local gold and silver mining industry. In July 1942, the U.S. Marine Corps took over the field and vastly expanded it as the Marine Corps Auxiliary Air Station (MCAAS) Mojave. In 1961, Kern County obtained title to the airport. The airfield's name was changed to its current name at the start of 2013.

Mojave is best known as a civilian flight test center, home of the Voyager aircraft and SpaceShipOne. F-4 Phantom II fighter jets were given a second life in Mojave by BAE Systems. Retired F-4s were converted to fly without a pilot on board to serve as a target drone for military RADAR and missile testing.

Mojave Air and Space Port emerged as the leading aerospace test center for commercial operations in North America. No longer a sleepy high desert general aviation Mojave Airport destination, Mojave Air and Space Port has amassed more first flights and significant newsworthy flight activity than any other airport in the world over the past ten years.

Mojave Air and Space Port is currently home to more than 60 companies engaged in flight development to light industrial to highly advanced aerospace design, flight test and research and even heavy rail industrial manufacturing.

Over the past ten years, MHV has upgraded infrastructure, added 3,000 feet of runway and integrated a new commercial development taxiway system. Aerospace and Industry are flocking to the High Desert and specifically to Mojave airport to design, test and produce tomorrow's leading-edge products. The wind industry and aviation industry rely heavily on composite fabrication utilizing carbon fiber and fiberglass technology, both resident at Mojave Air and Space Port through a network of design, fabrication and testing firms.

The commercial aircraft industry relies heavily on firms located at Mojave Airport to perform aircraft inspections, storage and part-out. Many specialty firms at Mojave focus specifically on engine development, noise reduction technology, advanced cockpit display development and major airframe design modifications. *(continued...)*





The Airport *(continued...)*

Mojave Air and Space Port is home to the National Test Pilot School (accredited in 2006), where more test pilots are educated than any other site in the world. Flight research activities include endo- and exo-atmospheric craft supporting private sector and government funded projects. In 2004 Mojave Spaceport hosted the Ansari X Prize suborbital space flights. The only Americans to reach space in 2004 in a United States craft did so from Mojave Spaceport.

Their upgraded rail infrastructure and switch engine moves product in/out of Mojave Air and Space Port with 34 daily rail car shipments through a license agreement with Union Pacific. Three companies operate on their rail spur moving raw product onto the airport and manufactured product out.

MHV completed a precise development plan in 2006 along with three fence-to-fence environmental assessments. Their planning has been adopted by the Kern County Board of Supervisors and the Kern County Planning Department.

Located at MHV is the Virgin Galactic hangar where The Spaceship Company (TSC), Virgin Galactic's sister company, is developing the world's first commercial spaceline. Virgin Galactic, owned by Sir Richard Branson, aims to send members of the general public on suborbital flights to space. The company has sold numerous tickets to people wanting to be on the forefront of space tourism. The construction and test of space vehicles and carrier ships is completed here in Mojave.

Also at MHV is Stratolauch Systems, a Paul G Allen Project. The company is constructing the largest aircraft to ever fly. The vehicle is designed to bring manned and unmanned vehicles to space. Stratolauch leadership is assembling a team of companies that are innovation leaders in aerospace.

Other significant operators at the airport include Scaled Composites, Flight Research Inc, Northrop Grumman, and BAE Systems.

There are 20 full-time non-union staff and several contractors who work at MHV daily. Mojave's total revenue is expected to be over \$8.5 million for the current fiscal year.

Communities Surrounding Mojave

Mojave is located 100 miles directly north of Los Angeles, California. There are two thriving communities within a 30-minute drive of Mojave: Lancaster/Palmdale and Tehachapi.

City of Lancaster

The City of Lancaster is a thriving community of 160,784 located approximately one hour north of Los Angeles. Clean air, attainable housing, wide open spaces, and a close-knit community make Lancaster the ideal place for families. Endless potential for growth, along with a strong commitment to business from local leaders, earned Lancaster the "Most Business-Friendly" Eddy Award from the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation in 2007. No matter how you look at it, it's positively clear that Lancaster is the perfect place to live, work and play!

People of all ages and ethnic backgrounds call Lancaster home. We take pride in our diversity and recognize that each individual contributes to making our City a stronger, more vibrant community.

Attainable housing and recent economic growth have made Lancaster a very attractive choice for families and businesses who are looking to relocate, but wish to enjoy all the advantages that Southern California has to offer.

City of Palmdale

In 1986, the population of the City of Palmdale was 23,350. Today, Palmdale is emerging as a rapidly growing and thriving community with over 158,605 residents. The City's record growth has made it one of the fastest-growing cities in America. 2017 Household Income Palmdale is an upper-middle class community, with an average household income of \$73,482 in 2017.

Palmdale residents enjoy a comfortable hometown feel with a strong family orientation, excellent education system and abundant recreational opportunities in a safe environment.





Mojave

City of Tehachapi

Tehachapi is located outside of Southern California's congested highly populated areas and outside of the drier hotter deserts and valleys surrounding it. Our higher elevation and mountain locale epitomizes outdoor living at its best. People here, whether resident or visitor, relish their time spent outside enjoying the scenic beauty and all the recreational opportunities, extreme sports and wildlife the area has to offer.

But Tehachapi's unique environment also means it is located outside the mainstream and conventions of suburbia. It's original. More unconventional attitude attracts people with fresh ideas and energy that manifest themselves in the arts, culture, traditions, technology and commercial innovations, and community spirit.

It's about higher elevation. How the higher elevation is our competitive differentiator because we have clean air, four seasons, alternative energy, outdoor adventure, great agritourism... all because of our higher elevation. That's why we encourage people to "Live Up!"



The Position

Under the supervision of the General Manager, The Director of Planning & Engineering leads the airport's project management, planning, engineering, environmental, design, and construction efforts. This position organizes the execution of airport capital program, airport master plan, and any architectural or engineering-related initiatives.

For a complete job description, [click here](#).

Position Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Engineering
- At least ten (10) years' experience in engineering, preferably civil engineering
- At least five (5) years' experience at an airport

The ideal candidate will have experience in design, construction, engineering and/or planning and a familiarity and comfort with relevant FAA requirements. A Master's degree in a relevant field, strong understanding of aviation industry standards and a private pilot license are a plus.

Salary & Compensation

The starting salary for the Director of Planning & Engineering is \$110,000 - \$140,000, depending on experience. Mojave Air & Space Port offers a benefit package that includes CalPERS pension retirement, excellent health coverage, dental, vision, life and tuition reimbursement.

How to Apply:

A. Please submit both a cover letter and résumé. We require your files to be submitted as PDF documents.

We prefer that you send both your cover letter and résumé as one combined document.

Please do not send your cover letter in the body of an email. Send your PDF files to ADK Executive Search at: MHVDE@adkexecutivesearch.com

B. Please complete the ADK employment application form at: [ADK Application Form](#) *(this is a secure link)*

Filing Deadline: Open until filled.

Only complete electronic submissions will be considered.

Email questions to: MHVDE@adkexecutivesearch.com

