

## **MERIDIAN, KEY FIELD AIRPORT (KMEI) TARMAC DELAY CONTINGENCY PLAN**

The Meridian, Key Field Airport has prepared this Emergency Contingency Plan pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Tom Williams at [twilliams@meridianairport.com](mailto:twilliams@meridianairport.com). The Meridian, Key Field Airport is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because it is a commercial airport. This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, The Meridian, Key Field Airport will:

- Provide for the deplanement of passengers;
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

The Meridian, Key Field Airport has severe facility constraints that limit our ability to accommodate diverted flights and strongly encourages aircraft operators to contact the airport at 601-693-7282 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. Specific facility constraints include the following: limited stressed aircraft parking apron, limited terminal waiting area size, limited terminal sterile area size of 50 passengers, no bathroom facilities in the sterile area, lack of international passenger processing facilities and limited TSA screening capacity. We have noted these constraints in The Meridian, Key Field Airport Airport/Facility Directory record. During diversion events the Meridian, Key Field Airport issues NOTAMs regarding its ability to accommodate diverted flights to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the airport and its ability to serve the civil aviation needs of the public during irregular operations events.

### **Airport Information**

Name of Airport: The Meridian, Key Field Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Tom Williams, President, Meridian Airport Authority

Preparer contact number: 601-482-0364, ext 101

Preparer contact e-mail: [twilliams@meridianairport.com](mailto:twilliams@meridianairport.com)

Date of submission of plan: May 10, 2012

Airport Category: Non Hub

### **Contact Information**

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact the Airport Manager at 601-693-7282 for assistance.

### **Plan to Provide for the Deplanement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays**

The Meridian, Key Field Airport does not own or operate any of the equipment needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft and is, therefore, unable on its own to provide for the deplanement of passengers. Additionally airport personnel are not trained to assist in the deplanement of passengers using equipment owned or operated by air carriers or contract service providers. We will provide a list of airlines and others who may have the necessary equipment and personnel to safely deplane passengers to airlines as soon as practicable after

receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

### **Plan to Provide for the Sharing of Facilities and Make Gates Available in an Emergency**

There is only one gate at The Meridian, Key Field Airport. It is under a common use gate lease to our air carrier and is controlled by the airport. We direct our common use air carrier to make gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate, to the maximum extent practicable.

The largest aircraft this gate can handle is a 50 seat regional jet. The sterile area located at the gate will only hold 50 people. There are no bathrooms in the sterile area.

### **Plan to Provide a Sterile Area for Passengers Who Have Not Cleared United States Customs and Border Protection**

We will coordinate with local CBP and law enforcement officials to identify suitable areas and procedures for establishing a temporary sterile area into which international passengers on diverted aircraft who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection can be deplaned. Once these efforts are complete, we will coordinate with local CBP officials to develop procedures that will allow international passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection to be deplaned into these sterile areas to the extent practicable.

### **Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan**

The Meridian, Key Field Airport will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan by posting it in a conspicuous location on the airport website (<http://www.meridianairport.com>).

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