

## **Punta Gorda Airport's Executive Director Gary Quill Receives 2016 Aviation Leadership Award from Florida Airports Council**



Punta Gorda, FL (July 22, 2016) – The Florida Airports Council (FAC) Allan Penska, Chairman of the Board of Directors, presented Gary P. Quill the Executive Director of the Charlotte County Airport Authority the 2016 Aviation Leadership Award at the annual Florida Airports Council Conference, held this year in Bonita Springs, Florida.

Each year the Florida Airports Council presents the Aviation Leadership Award to those individuals who has demonstrated outstanding service and contribution to the Florida aviation/airport community, the FAC Board of Directors, the FAC Education Foundation, or one or more FAC committee.

Mr. Quill has over 37 years of airport and airport management experience. He began his professional career in 1979 as a Manager of Planning at the Louisville International Airport in Louisville, Kentucky. In 1983, he became the airport manager at the Lakeland/Linder Airport (LAL). During his fifteen-year tenure at LAL he oversaw many improvements to the airport and adjoining business park. After a short stint (one Winter) at the Toledo Airport in Toledo, Ohio, he and his family missed the Florida sunshine and the aviation environment that our State of Florida offers those in aviation. He then was the Airport Director at Ocala International Airport (OCF). In 2001 he was appointed Executive Director of the Charlotte County Airport Authority which manages and operates the Punta Gorda Airport (PGD) in Punta Gorda, Florida. He has kept his focus on both the aviation side and non-aviation side of the airport. Through his guidance and that of the Airport Authority Board the airport was rebuilt after being nearly destroyed by the hurricane, gained airline service and added numerous safety improvements.

Punta Gorda Airport is served by Allegiant Airlines with service to thirty cities. It is estimated the airport will serve over 1 million passengers in 2016.