



Media Release

Date: May 15, 2003

Subject: Barry Aylward Honoured by Aircraft Electronics Association.

For Immediate Publication

Mississauga, Ontario, CANADA – K-W Chamber of Commerce Member Barry Aylward, President of Kitchener Aero and Mid-Canada Mod Center, has received a significant honour and recognition from the US based Aircraft Electronics Association International (AEA).

During the annual awards luncheon, at the AEA's 46th annual convention and trade show in Orlando, Aylward was named **AEA's Member of the Year**. AEA has given this award out for the past 30 years. Honorees are nominated by and voted for by fellow members of the association. On some years, more than one member has been recognized with this award. Mr. Aylward is only the third Canadian to be so recognized.

Barry serves on AEA's Board of Directors as Region VI Vice President, and as noted by Paula Derks, AEA President, "was a valuable member of the Strategic Planning committee - always keeping everyone on the committee thinking internationally, and not just domestically." He has been very active in Regulatory Affairs, and has worked closely with Transport Canada's Civil Aviation branch in that regard.

For his part, Barry was quoted saying his involvement with AEA has been instrumental in his company's growth, stating "AEA has been essential from the standpoint of networking, knowing who to call and acquiring dealerships."

In commenting on the award, Bill Arsenault stated that he is thrilled with the industry recognition to his business partner and the overall efforts of their firms. According to Arsenault "Barry has worked long and hard to build not only our business, but the overall quality and credibility of the avionics service industry in North America. His work with the AEA and organizations like the CBAA has been freely given without thought for reward or repayment. A recognition like this is one of the best accolades that someone can receive. It is a true vote of confidence from peers."

Barry also served on the K-W Chamber's *Airport Task Force* several years ago, and since its inception, has been an active member of the *Noise Management Committee* at Waterloo Regional Airport.

Kitchener Aero and Mid-Canada Mod Center collectively provide Canada's premiere aviation avionics sales, installation and integration service. Both firms have been responsible for many industry *firsts* and have received numerous industry awards and accolades for their achievements.

The focus of Kitchener Aero's technical expertise is corporate and general aviation markets. Among many specialties, the firm excels in the development and implementation of Aircraft Life Extension Programs (ALEPs) for older turboprop type aircraft. They also have an enviable reputation for their Special Missions applications, development and installations. In both cases the work centers on extensive and unique avionics upgrades and applications for small commercial and corporate/executive transportation aircraft.

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