

Northwest Airlines New Midfield Terminal

Romulus, Michigan



A new terminal was required at Detroit Metropolitan Airport for Northwest Airlines due to the increase in flights and passengers. The old terminal was outdated and was not able to be expanded.

The project area for the new terminal was selected. The area was situated on an approximate four-square mile section of the airport and was completely surrounded by runways and taxiways. The preliminary design of the terminal had to be prepared to very tight tolerances. Northwest Airlines was very concerned that there would not be enough space between the existing runways and taxiways to build the new terminal. The exact location of the concrete portions of the runways and taxiways were of critical importance.

Spalding DeDecker Associates, Inc. (SDA) provided surveying services for the planning of the design for the Midfield Terminal at the Detroit Metropolitan/Wayne County Airport.

SPECIAL FEATURES

The schedule for the completion was extremely tight. SDA was able to meet the schedule because of its use of advanced technology. SDA used the Global Positioning System (GPS) designed and maintained by the United States Department of Defense to greatly reduce the number of hours needed to successfully accomplish this task. SDA combined this all-weather advanced technology with conventional survey methods to complete and deliver the drawings on time.

"Spalding DeDecker was always there when needed and worked diligently throughout to provide the best possible service to the project."

Jim Greenwald, Vice President Facilities and Airport Affairs, Northwest Airlines

OWNER / CLIENT

Northwest Airlines, Inc.

PROJECT START - END

February 1997 - December 2001

SDA PROJECT NO.

SM97-026