



July 31, 2018



S³ Celebrates Kachemak Bay Milestones

S³ is officially observing a special milestone in 2018 for its wholly owned subsidiary, Kachemak Bay Flying Service (KBFS). This year marks the **20th Anniversary** of KBFS's Part 145 Repair Station at Temple Draughon-Miller Regional Airport. Although KBFS did not officially move its shingle to the Temple Airport until 2012, its acquisition of **Summit Aviation** (the Part 145 Repair Station operator at Temple) in 2013 laid claim to a special piece of Central Texas aviation history.

Mr. "Pat" Packwood established Summit Aviation with Operations Manager, Mr. Wiley Gustafson, at Temple Draughon-Miller Airport in October 1998. The new company was not immediately a Part 145 station as the original Summit mission was to provide FAA Part 61 flight training to Central Texas aviation enthusiasts. However, Summit Aviation acquired Sunset Aviation, a Part 145 Avionics Repair Station owned by Ms. Marla Coward of Gatesville, TX. Summit moved the Part 145 station to Temple Airport and added General Aviation Maintenance in 1999.

Summit Aviation sold its flight training school in 2003. Mr. Bill Maedgen purchased the Part 145 station under the name of Summit Aviation in 2004 and sold the company to Mr. Brick Brown in 2009. Meanwhile, Ms. Jan Smith, Founder and CEO of System Studies and Simulation, Inc. (S³), purchased Kachemak Bay Flying Service in 2007 and eventually established the company at the Temple Airport in 2012 after several years of operations in Phoenix, AZ. At the time of purchase, Kachemak Bay was operating bush planes in Homer, AK, supporting tourist operations. The primary aircraft at the time was a Travel Air biplane originally owned by Charles Lindbergh.



KBFS Mechanic Servicing Beechcraft Bonanza in Hangar #10

KBFS is now S³'s commercial aviation arm providing a wide variety of rotary wing and fixed wing services to government and retail customers. CEO Smith acquired Summit Aviation in 2013 and immediately integrated the acquired repair station and general aviation maintenance services into the KBFS operations. CEO Smith acquired another company, Skyline Columbus – Part 141 Pilot Training – in 2015 and moved that company from Georgia to Temple, TX. Today, KBFS operates a full service aviation company under five (5) FAA certificates at Temple's Draughon-Miller Airport and Bob Sikes Airport in

Crestview, FL. KBFS offers CFR 14 Part 133/137 Helicopter External Load/Aerial Spray operations, Part 135 On-Demand Charter, Part 141 Flight Training, and Part 145 Avionics Repair and Installation with General Aviation Maintenance, all at the Temple Airport. In Crestview, KBFS provides Cessna 208 Loadmaster and High Altitude-Low Opening (HALO) parachute training to the US Air Force (USAF). KBFS-Crestview also provides C-208 Aircraft Qualification and Mission Sensor Training to the USAF, to Partner Nation Military Services, and to US and Partner Nation Law Enforcement agencies. The Crestview team accomplishes this training as part of the **S³ International Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Academy** (IISRA).



**KBFS Avionics Technician Bench
Testing A Radio**

Through all of the acquisitions and transitions, the Summit Aviation maintenance operation has been the centerpiece that has sustained our customer base. These customers and the corporate friendly city of Temple have made these twenty years of service to the general aviation community a reality for first Summit Aviation, and now to Kachemak Bay Flying Service. We maintain all equipment, on-line manuals and special tools necessary by FAA regulations to perform maintenance on most light civil airplanes and helicopters. Because of Summit's outstanding record of service as a maintenance provider, we are also a registered dealership for many aviation product lines that include Garmin, Edmo, Apreo, Avidyne, and Aviall.

S³ celebrates our maintenance operation's 20th Anniversary by announcing the **Kachemak Bay Veterans Fly-In** to Temple Draughton-Miller Airport on November 11, 2018. Please help us celebrate by joining us for food and drinks and special discounts on flight training and annual maintenance services. Additional flyers and event information will be published in coming weeks.