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Eagle Aviation Announces New Ownership

(Columbia, SC) - Eagle Aviation, one of the nation's oldest fixed-base operations (FBO) in Columbia, South Carolina, is now under new ownership. Longtime employee of the company and industry veteran Lee Thomas acquired Eagle on April 1, 2023, becoming only the second owner since 1967.

Thomas brings his experience of more than thirty-five years in the aviation industry. His career began in Valdosta, GA as a line service technician, then at Auburn University where he became assistant chief flight instructor, and then finally at Eagle Aviation in 1995 where he started as an aircraft sales researcher and eventually became president, a position he will maintain. The current management team will remain in place to allow Thomas to provide his customary level of care for all clients, including those in aircraft sales.

"I am thrilled to be the new owner of Eagle Aviation," Thomas said. "I started at Eagle straight out of Auburn. This is a fantastic company with wonderful employees and a great reputation in the aviation industry. My goal is to build on the company's success and take it to new heights. We have an amazing team of professionals at Eagle, and I am confident we will achieve our objectives."

While he appreciates the foundation that has been previously laid, Thomas plans to create an experience that will expand the business and keep existing customers coming back for the personal touch they have come to expect from Eagle Aviation. Noteworthy renovations are already underway, including a newly paved tarmac. Eagle has also recently been authorized as a Cirrus Vision Jet line-maintenance service center. The company continues to build on its Cirrus and Cessna service centers as well as on its formal relationships with Garmin, Avidyne, AirText, Raisbeck, Blackhawk, Standard Aero, Prizm Lighting, Whelen Lighting and Berringer Brakes.

"Come check us out! We would love for you to visit and see our work firsthand. The changes are part of our broader plan for long-term achievement. The company will continue under the name of Eagle Aviation, which our customers recognize. They can continue to expect the same high-quality products and customer experience from us," said Thomas.