

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Colorado Aviation Business Association and Metro State Flight Team Deliver  
4,000 Pounds of Food and Toys in Holiday VFW Airlift**

**Denver, CO – January 6, 2015** – The Colorado Aviation Business Association (CABA) is proud to announce that the 4th Annual Holiday VFW Airlift delivered more than 4,000 pounds of food and toys to veterans and their families across Colorado.

On December 7, the Precision Flight Team of Metropolitan State University of Denver’s Department of Aviation & Aerospace Science teamed with several private pilots on the AeroColorado ramp at Centennial Airport in Englewood, and flew the donated goods to Montrose, Alamosa, Trinidad, and Burlington. In all, 8 aircraft participated in the Airlift and were greeted by VFW teams who then distributed the goods to veterans and their families who are in need.

Throughout the months of October and November, CABA collected toys and nonperishable foods using donation bins placed in nearly 40 airport and business locations along the Front Range and Western Slope. The donation drive culminated with the annual CABA Holiday Party held December 5 in the AeroColorado Hangar at Centennial Airport, where guests brought additional donated goods in lieu of purchasing admission to the party. Since 2011, the amount of goods collected has been: 1,500 pounds in 2011, 3,500 pounds in 2012, over 5,000 pounds in 2013, and slightly over 4,000 pounds this year.

“All of us on the CABA board are extremely proud of the efforts made by everyone – CABA volunteers particularly the Flight Attendants Group and the Student Chapter, as well as the Flight Team and other private pilots who donated their time and expenses to fly the goods to Colorado veterans. We are also very thankful for our partnership with the Colorado VFW, who are the folks on the ground delivering the goods where they are needed. It is very heartwarming to be able to spread a little happiness and cheer during the holiday season. We are very grateful to all of the sponsors, donors, and businesses that helped make the donation drive a great success,” said Mike Straka, Chair of the event and a US Army veteran.

For more information and photos of the event, visit [www.mycaba.org](http://www.mycaba.org)



Prior to departure of the 2014 CABA-VFW Holiday Airlift: Metropolitan State University of Denver Precision Flight Team and volunteers gather on the ramp at AeroColorado (Centennial Airport). (Photo by Mike Straka)

**Note to Editors:**

*The mission of the Colorado Aviation Business Association is to promote the value of business and general aviation across the State of Colorado. Founded in 1994, CABA acts to collectively address and respond to issues impacting Colorado Airports including safety and operational effectiveness; to educate the general public about all aviation activities in the state; to preserve the state's airport related businesses as valuable economic assets to the community at large; and to provide for the training of future aviation professionals through its scholarship fund.*

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