

Okaloosa County News Release

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US Airways Announces Daily Non-Stop Service from NWF Regional Airport (VPS)

US Airways announced today that it will begin daily non-stop service from **Northwest Florida Regional Airport (VPS) to Washington Regan-National Airport (DCA), starting March 25, 2012.** The new flights will link the region's military bases and area businesses to our nation's capital with a quick dedicated flight every day. US Airways will operate a 50 seat CRJ regional jet that departs DCA at 2:40 p.m. and arrives VPS at 4:13 p.m., then stays at the gate for a 37 minute turn, departing for Washington DC at 4:50 p.m. and arriving at DCA at 8:13 p.m. every day of the week.

Operating through the preferred downtown Washington, DC airport, the new US Airway's flights will allow Northwest Florida travelers immediate and convenient access to the heart of Washington, DC and all locations inside the beltway. **"We are excited to expand our service to customers traveling to and from our nation's capital as well as increase jobs at Washington National Airport,"** said US Airways Chairman and CEO Doug Parker. "When our expansion is completed, US Airways will offer more than 230 daily flights and directly support more than 1,500 aviation jobs at Washington National."

"The competitive GSA Government fares will allow for more military personnel from nearby bases to travel to Washington from VPS instead of having to drive to other airports. This, in turn will save the government money," said the Airports Business Development Manager Mike Stenson. The new flights will also provide new connection opportunities through US Airways' DCA hub to over 50 destinations. **All flight information and tickets can be purchased now at www.usairways.com or 1-800-428-4322.**

"Obtaining non-stop service to DCA has been a top priority for us and we greatly appreciate US Airway's brilliant decision to initiate this invaluable service to our region. Our military personnel, government leaders, defense contractors, and businesses will immediately benefit," stated airports director Greg Donovan. **"Quick, affordable travel to and from the Washington, DC market will strengthen our region's industries and our ability to interact with national policy makers.** The service equally provides an opportunity for national leadership to visit our community and see firsthand the exceptional work performed at our military bases and the important missions being accomplished by over 60,000 personnel."

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Northwest Florida Regional Airport (VPS) is a joint-use facility established on Eglin AFB in 1957. The airport accommodates over 900,000 passengers annually on American Eagle, Delta Airlines, Continental / United Airlines, US Airways, and Vision Airlines. For further information, please visit www.flyvps.com.

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