The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority has selected the Carter Burgess/CH2M HILL Team, working in a 50-50 partnership, to conduct the preliminary design of two new runways at Washington Dulles International Airport. Contract and scope negotiations are underway.

The runways will be approximately 10,000 feet long with a construction cost between $150 and $200 million each. Additional project elements include the design of associated high-speed and parallel taxiways, holding aprons, airfield lighting, navigational aids, utility relocations, stormwater management and assisting the Environmental Impact Statement team with the identification of potential environmental impacts. The team will be:

- Performing upfront planning analyses
- Identifying potential obstructions to air navigation
- Conducting simulations of airfield operations and alternative analyses to maximize operational design of the new airfield facilities and verify line-of-sight from the new air traffic control tower location.

CH2M HILL will provide the design management of each runway complex.

“This is a significant opportunity for CH2M HILL, in light of the current economic downturn in the aviation industry since Sept. 11,” said Terry Ruhl, CH2M HILL’s project manager. “This is the first major runway program to advance forward since that time, and is one of only a handful of major airport capital improvement programs nationally that continue to move forward at an accelerated pace. It is also encouraging for the industry that major capacity improvement projects, such as the Dulles program, are returning to the forefront.”

Fun Stats on Runways

Earthwork: Enough dirt to cover 28 football fields, 150 feet deep.

Concrete: Enough concrete to fill more than 45,000 concrete trucks, which, if placed end to end, would stretch for more than 200 miles.

Electrical: Electrical wiring that can extend for well over 100 miles, even though the runway itself is only a couple of miles in length.

CH2M HILL has created a new business unit within the Transportation Business Group. CH2M HILL Aviation was established to increase the efficiency of the aviation group and focus on helping aviation clients expand, adapt and implement cost-effective solutions.

“The formation of CH2M HILL Aviation at this time reflects our strong commitment to providing full-service solutions to the aviation industry,” said Brian O’Halloran, Aviation director.

http://projects.ch2m.com/unlimited/
Visit the electronic version of Unlimited to view an animated fly-over used to illustrate key points and technical issues to the client during the proposal presentation. The animation was created by Mike Ostrom, Tom Hamilton, Calvin Sugg and Tim McBroome.