



## For Immediate Release

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### **Kansas Sampler Foundation Picks Wichita Aviation Industry as 8 Wonders Candidate Based in Part on Displays Found at Kansas Aviation Museum**

The Kansas Sampler Foundation rightly picked the aviation industry in Wichita as one of the possible 8 Wonders of Kansas. However, it almost didn't make the cut because of the rule that attractions must be open to the public. The Foundation overlooked this rule in the case of Wichita's aviation industry in part because of exhibits found at the Kansas Aviation Museum. Becky Tanner of the Wichita Eagle reported on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009:

Wichita's planemakers almost didn't make the list, Penner [representative for the Kansas Sampler Foundation] said, because none of the businesses are accessible to the public. "We felt it was too important not to list but it is so important that there is some place where people can go (to learn) more about the industry," she said. The industry qualified through displays found at the Kansas Aviation Museum and the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum. "We sometimes forget that businesses are also about tourist attractions," she said. "These places should make every Kansas [sic] so proud about what we produce in this state."

To cast your vote for the Wichita Aviation Industry as one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas for 2009, go to:

<http://www.kansassampler.org/8wonders/commerce.php>

scroll down and click on the icon for "Wichita Aviation Industry."

The Kansas Aviation Museum is dedicated to the preservation of Kansas Aviation History. The collection includes early Stearmans and Swallows both complete and under restoration, experimental planes conceived and constructed by Kansans, a KC135, a B-47 under restoration, a children's activity center and much, much more.

The museum is open to the public Monday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$7.00 for adults, \$6.00 for those 60 and older, \$5.00 for children ages four to twelve with three and under free. AAA and military discounts available upon request.

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