

BIO - SOLSVIG

Andrew Solsvig is currently a Business Development Representative at Blast Deflectors, Inc. (BDI) located in Reno, NV. BDI, a design and supply company established in 1957, specializes in aircraft jet blast deflectors and ground run-up enclosures, providing crucial safety and noise attenuation support to airports worldwide.

A proud alum of the University of North Dakota (UND), Andrew initially aspired to be a pilot but realized early in college he enjoyed the business aspect of aviation. After completing an Airport Management elective, he wanted to pursue airport administration. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Business Administration with an emphasis on Airport and Business Management from UND, a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix, Reno, and is an Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.).

Andrew's industry experience begins as a ramp agent for Mesaba Airlines out of the Minneapolis / St. Paul International Airport during two years of college. His work experience expanded as a summer intern for the Grand Forks Regional Airport focusing on general maintenance and airport operations. Post graduation, he interned at the Phoenix/Sky Harbor International Airport, gaining experience in noise monitoring and community outreach.

Relocating to Reno, NV, Andrew worked as an Airport Planner for the Reno/Tahoe International Airport for over six years before transitioning to the airport marketing and air service team.

During the recession, Andrew assumed a new role as the Airport Director in Minot, ND managing all aspects of airport operations and administration. Under his leadership, the airport witnessed remarkable growth, tripling passenger enplanements in three years. The growth prompted major infrastructure projects, totaling \$95M over five years, including a new terminal, apron, snow removal equipment building, and parking lots.

"I feel fortunate having worked in Minot, ND during the oil boom and leading the charge, with tremendous support, to expedite the airport planning updates, budgets, and infrastructure needs to see major projects completed from beginning to end. It could not have been as successful without all stakeholders involved."

Seeking the mountains and a new challenge, Andrew accepted a position as the Operations Manager for the Eagle/Vail Airport in Colorado assisting with a terminal expansion project and long winters of snow removal.

In 2020, Andrew took on another Airport Director role in Moab, UT, where he actively managed the airport's development by writing the airport's Rules & Regulations, Minimum Standards, updating the security plan, rebranding the airport, negotiating a new air service market, and overseeing a \$9.3M taxiway and apron improvement project.

The reason for considering living in Prescott and managing the Prescott Regional Airport, is when he initially read the advertisement, there was a deep understanding of the job's requirements and goals and a desire to get back into the airport side of the industry. Andrew has a positive impression of the Prescott community and a personal relationship to individuals associated with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Having lived in several high desert city climates and an aspiration for the outdoors, he would feel extremely comfortable relocating to this community.