



# Kent County Department of Aeronautics

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GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

April 20, 2011

Contact: Bruce Schedlbauer, Marketing and Communications Manager  
(616) 233-6053

## **Ford Airport Names New Fire Chief**

Todd Szakacs has been selected for the position of Chief Aircraft Rescue Firefighter for the Kent County Department of Aeronautics. Szakacs, who most recently served as the Fire Marshall for the City of Holland (MI) Fire Department, began his new duties April 18<sup>th</sup>. He will be responsible for all aircraft rescue, firefighting, and EMS functions at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA). The Department of Aeronautics, operator of GFIA, currently employs 16 full-time certified aircraft rescue firefighters.

Szakacs has 18 years of firefighting experience. Prior to serving for five years as the City of Holland Fire Marshall, he served for over seven years as a lieutenant firefighter with Pfizer, Inc. Szakacs holds an A.S. degree in Fire Science from Kalamazoo Valley Community College, has completed the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy, and has several certifications, including EMT, Firefighter I and II, Fire Inspector, and Fire Officer.

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