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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

West Star Aviation Announces Apprenticeship Program

November 7, 2017- West Star Aviation is pleased to announce they have teamed up with Careerwise in Colorado to establish a long-term apprenticeship for upcoming talent. West Star will begin to host their apprentices in August of 2018.

Colorado launched a statewide initiative called Careerwise due to the workforce needs and lack of competencies needed for skilled/trade positions. West Star has agreed to employ a minimum of five apprentices a year for three years. The apprenticeship will provide impactful training, development opportunities, business coaching, as well as guidance and consideration for full-time employment when the duration of the apprenticeship is complete.

"There is a growing need for new trade and skill development, especially in aviation, and there is a lack of trade schools for aircraft maintenance and paint, so if we can train students interested in the aviation market, we can take them to whatever level we want or need them to be at," said Katie Johnson, Director of Human Resources, West Star Aviation. "Working side by side with a West Star expert will help our apprentices develop the fundamental skills while still in school, and also continue to develop their passion for aviation," Johnson continued.

West Star Aviation expects an additional 14 apprentice spots to open for 2018. Their initial plan is to hire two apprentices, one for aviation technology and the other for paint. The official number of open apprentice positions with West Star will be decided December 1, 2017.

Voted #1 Preferred MRO in the 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 *Professional Pilot* magazine annual "Preferences Regarding Aviation Services and Equipment" (PRASE) Survey, West Star Aviation specializes in the repair and maintenance of airframes, windows, and engines, as well as major modifications, avionics installation and repair, interior refurbishment, surplus avionics sales, accessory services, paint and parts.

In addition to its facilities in East Alton, IL; Grand Junction, CO; and Chattanooga, TN, West Star Aviation runs maintenance operations at Aspen-Pitkin County Airport in Aspen, CO; Chicago Executive Airport in Chicago, IL; Centennial Airport in Denver, CO and Conroe-North Houston Regional Airport in Houston, TX. The company also provides complete FBO services for transient aircraft at its newly remodeled East Alton and Grand Junction facilities. West Star Aviation is an industry leader in technical experience and expertise while providing world-class customer services in all the organization's divisions. For more information visit www.weststaraviation.com or call 800-922-2421.

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