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For Immediate Release

Site Selection Names Wilmington Ohio in Top Ten U.S. Micropolitans
Wilmington Air Park to Market Economic Development Benefits

March 4, 2014— Wilmington, Ohio—Site Selection Magazine recently announced the awards given to this year’s Top Metropolitan and Micropolitans in the U.S. In the magazine’s ranking of Top Micropolitans — cities of 10,000 to 50,000 people—Wilmington, Ohio was named number ten on the Micropolitan List. The rankings include data on new and expanding facilities. Site Selection collected data from local, regional and state officials and surveyed over 575 micropolitan communities.

The Wilmington Air Park, owned and operated by the Clinton County Port Authority, is located in the heart of Wilmington and is both a major asset and employer within the community. The area boasts three key attributes— location, labor and logistics. Being located near three major metropolitan areas (Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton), a wealth of well-trained workers and an exceptional interstate system, makes the Clinton County area an attractive place to do business. The expansion of facilities and employment in Wilmington came from a diverse mix of industries. Recently, the plastics, auto parts, digital services and aerospace industries have all been represented in Wilmington’s road to recovery.

“This award is evidence that the community is moving in the right direction,” said Kevin Carver, Executive Director of the Clinton County Port Authority. “Sales activity both at the Air Park and within the County has been steadily increasing. Targeted business prospects have been touring our facilities and several have shown interest in locating within the Air Park. Being recognized as a top community by Site Selection Magazine is an added sales tool for our team,” added Carver.

The State of Ohio fared well in the Governor’s Cup standing. The State was number two in the overall state standings with 480 projects qualifying for ranking. Additionally, the State had 4 in the Top Ten Metropolitan— cities with more than 50,000 residents— and 5 on the Top Ten Micropolitans listing. Ohio has placed either number one or number two in the Governor’s Cup since 2005. “The Wilmington Air Park staff continually works with the State of Ohio, Dayton Development Coalition, City of Wilmington and Clinton County to make sure the region is attracting potential businesses to the area. This is evidence that the economic development effort throughout our region continues to take top priority amongst its public and private leaders,” said David Hockaday, Clinton County Port Authority Chair.

Loan Fund Part of Effort to Support Community’s Economic Development

In 2013, the Clinton County Port Authority announced the development of a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) which is available to new or existing businesses. The \$1.333 million fund has been made available by The Ohio Development Services Agency and the U.S. Economic Development Administration. Loans from \$25,000 up to \$250,000 are available for qualifying projects. Traditionally, revolving loan funds are combined with private commercial loans to create a favorable lending environment for the traditional lenders, as well as additional funding for businesses. This opportunity is available county-wide. “We hope to help those local loyal businesses who need to retool or replace aging capital assets as the economy improves, as well as attract expanding businesses to the area,” said Mike Curry, Clinton County Commissioner. “This is an additional effort to make sure Wilmington is on the Top Ten list every year,” Curry added.

About Site Selection and Conway Data

Site Selection has recognized the Top Metropolitans and Micropolitans since 1978. The listings include the cities with the most new and expanded corporate facilities as tracked by Conway Data Inc.'s New Plant Database. Conway Data publishes Site Selection, the senior publication in the corporate real estate and economic development field, and the official publication of the Industrial Asset Management Council (IAMC, at www.iamc.org). Site Selection's yearly analyses are regarded by corporate real estate analysts as "the industry scoreboard." The magazine's circulation base consists of 44,000 executives involved in corporate site selection decisions, most at the CEO/President/COO level.

Atlanta-based Conway Data Inc. (CDI) is the parent company and publisher of Site Selection magazine. The late CDI founder and Chairman McKinley Conway began Site Selection in 1954, the first magazine ever focused on corporate real estate and economic development. In 1983, Conway also created SiteNet (www.sitenet.com), the first online network serving the development industry.

About Wilmington Air Park

Owned by the Clinton County Port Authority, the Wilmington Air Park compasses over 1,900 acres with a fully functioning airport, as well as three million square feet of office, warehouse and hanger space. Both runways, (9,000' and 10,701') at the Wilmington Air Park are CAT III capable, allowing full instrument approach for some of the largest aircraft made today. The Wilmington Air Park is home to airlines, aviation maintenance and repair operations, as well as UAV testing and research.

The Air Park provides flexibility in landing schedules, plentiful aprons, on-site aircraft maintenance, a Foreign Trade Zone Designation and a variety of economic incentive programs. The over 40 structures can accommodate businesses of nearly any size and can be used independently or together. The Air Park is located in Wilmington, Ohio, just 40 miles northeast of Cincinnati, Ohio and 35 miles southeast of Dayton, Ohio. www.wilmingtonairpark.com

About the Clinton County Port Authority

The Clinton County Port Authority was established in 2004 by the Clinton County Commissioners and is governed by an all-volunteer board of directors. The Port Authority is a special purpose government formed to operate transportation infrastructure and lead economic development efforts. Authorized purposes for port authorities include activities that enhance foster, aid, provide and promote transportation, economic development, housing, recreation, education, governmental operations, culture and research.

In 2010, the Clinton County Port Authority gained ownership of 1,500 acres encompassing the Wilmington Air Park, with the assistance of the City of Wilmington, Clinton County and the State of Ohio. Subsequently, the Port Authority purchased available adjacent land to bring the total land to 1,900 acres surrounding a two-runway, fully functioning airport.

For executive interviews, success stories and additional media relations services, please contact Beth Huber, Clinton County Port Authority, via phone at 937-655-7040 or email at bhuber@ccportauthority.com; Elise Hafenbrack, Chisano Marketing Group, via phone at 937-847-3743 or email at eliseh@chisano.com.

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