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Hawker Beechcraft to build maintenance facility at Gateway Airport

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A new \$14 million aircraft maintenance center will be opened at **Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport** in the East Valley.

Wichita, Kan.-based **Hawker Beechcraft Corp.** said Wednesday it is leasing more than five acres at the Mesa airport and could expand.

The HBC service center will include hangars and is expected to employ as many as 110 workers.

The company manufactures smaller aircraft. It already has 10 service centers with one located in the United Kingdom, one in Mexico and the rest in the U.S. including Houston; Tampa, Fla.; and Van Nuys, Calif.

Phoenix-Mesa Gateway is a former U.S. Air Force base that has been transformed into a mid-sized airport.

The **Greater Phoenix Economic Council** and **Arizona Department of Commerce** assisted Mesa officials in landing the HBC center.

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