

## MEDIA RELEASE

**From the Greater Rockford Airport Authority**

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### **RFD Lands Two Tactical Demos for AirFest 2010 Advance-Sale Ticket Prices Increase April 1**

**Rockford, IL** – The Chicago Rockford International Airport (RFD) announced today it has secured the performances of two military tactical demonstrations for AirFest 2010. In addition to AirFest's headline performer, the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds Demonstration Team, the United States Marine Corps AV-8B Harrier Demo and the U.S. Navy F/A-18 Super Hornet Demo will take flight.

"AirFest is a great place to see many types of military aircraft as well as some of their operational maneuvers that you might never get a chance to see," said Executive Director Bob O'Brien. "These two tactical demos are sure to be crowd pleasers as they highlight the only active vertical and/or short take-off and landing (V/STOL) aircraft the military currently has and one of the most widely used aircraft in the Navy and Marines," he continued.

The Harrier demo will be performed by Marine Air Group (MAG) 14 from Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point located in North Carolina. MAG-14's mission is to conduct offensive air support, anti-air warfare, electronic warfare, assault support, and air reconnaissance operations in support of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force or joint and coalition forces, and conduct fleet replacement program training in order to provide combat capable aircrews to operational squadrons.

The Super Hornet demo will be performed by Strike Fighter Squadron 106 (VFA-106), also known as the "Gladiators" from Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana located in Virginia Beach, VA. As the East Coast Fleet Replacement Squadron, the Gladiators' mission is to train Navy and Marine Corps F/A-18 replacement flight crews to support fleet commitments.

AirFest 2010 is scheduled to take place on Saturday, July 31 and Sunday, August 1.

#### **AirFest Tickets**

AirFest officials also want to encourage attendees to purchase their advance-sale tickets as soon as possible because ticket prices with savings of up to 60 percent off the gate price will increase on Thursday, April 1. "This is the best deal that you can find right now for AirFest tickets and it won't be around for much longer," said O'Brien. "Make sure to get yours today before the prices increase."

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