

Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul Fact Sheet

A state-of-the-art, 100,000-square-foot maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility will anchor the Mid-Atlantic Opportunity Park, an intermodal business center serving the mid-Atlantic region.

What is an MRO?

A maintenance, repair and overhaul facility (sometimes referred to as maintenance, repair and operations) is a regional destination for repair, service and inspection of aircraft. MRO facilities and technicians help to keep airplanes running safely and reliably through the use of aircraft ground support equipment.

- Maintenance is work done on an aircraft to keep it in the best condition. Maintenance serves as a routine “checkup” on the aircraft, with the aim to *prevent* any issues from arising with the equipment.
- In contrast, repairs happen *after* something breaks. Examples could be a failed instrument or controls not responding as they should.
- Overhauls are when aircraft are taken apart piece by piece, inspected and put back together again. This is an essential part of keeping an aircraft airworthy since it enables mechanics to see what’s going on below the surface. They inspect for unusual wear and tear, hidden damage and replace any components that aren’t within specs.

Why is it beneficial to the local economy?

Numerous aviation parks across the country that host MROs become magnets for aviation industry suppliers, from avionics to parts depots, training facilities and more. With the demand continuing to increase for maintenance, repair and overhaul providers, it has been estimated that 2020’s \$616 billion value will have grown to \$701 billion by 2026, according to Mordor Intelligence.

In short, with an MRO at John Murtha Johnstown-Cambria County Airport (JST), parts suppliers and other vendors will want to locate nearby, providing numerous job opportunities.

Why is JST’s Opportunity Park an ideal location for a new MRO?

Positioned at the heart of some of North America’s busiest air corridors, a unique opportunity is emerging to serve aviation interests in the mid-Atlantic region at JST.

Just 5 miles from downtown Johnstown and its railroads, The Opportunity Park is being developed by Cambrian Hills Development Group in partnership with the Cambria County Airport Authority, and encompasses 138 acres with direct runway access and located less than an hour from Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Richmond, Virginia, and less than 90 minutes from New York and Chicago.

The Opportunity Park opens new potential not only to aviation interests, but also to a region of more than 42 million people and those who seek multimodal opportunities to meet their needs from a community with a growing economy, talented workforce, a quality public school system and a variety of colleges, universities and trade schools.

Pennsylvania is also home to numerous aviation mechanic training institutions, such as Aviation Institute of Maintenance, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics and Pennsylvania College of Technology.