

**Contact: Melanie Friscoe**  
**Office: 877-359-7222**  
**Email: melanie@beaconamc.net**  
**Release Date: August 19, 2019**



**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**AVIATION**  
**ASSOCIATION**

**SC Aviation Association names Aviation Maintenance Technician of the Year**  
*Ryan Turiak of Aircraft Maintenance Services honored*

**Columbia, S.C.** – Ryan Turiak, avionics technician at Aircraft Maintenance Services Inc., was named the 2019 Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) of the Year in a surprise ceremony at his place of business earlier today.

The AMT of the Year award is part of the joint South Carolina Aviation Association and South Carolina Aeronautics Commission Aviation Week initiative. AMTs are integral to the aviation industry, keeping aircraft operational by performing repairs, inspections and scheduled maintenance.

“I have hired and trained many young men in my 40 years of aircraft maintenance, but Ryan is the best that I have ever trained,” said Frank Shumpert, owner of Aircraft Maintenance Services. “Ryan is multi-talented. As both a pilot and A&P certified technician, he has a better understanding of problems pilots face and can resolve issues quickly to keep everyone safe.”

Turiak was nominated for the award by four individuals, and themes of trustworthiness, work ethic, and enthusiasm for general aviation permeated each nomination.

Pilot Randy Willard nominated Ryan for the award, stating, “Ryan provides superior avionics repair and service. He is an excellent source of information, he maintains a hunger in furthering his knowledge within his field, and he is dedicated to providing exceptional service.”

South Carolina Aviation Week is a statewide celebration of the economic and education impact of airports and the aviation industry. Celebrated August 18 – 24, 2019, and centered around National Aviation Day on August 19, Aviation Week is planned in partnership by South Carolina Aviation Association and South Carolina Aeronautics Commission.

South Carolina Aviation Association actively promotes and encourages aviation and airport development to meet air transportation needs and assist the state in achieving economic development goals. Its membership is comprised of airports and aviators across South Carolina, as well as aviation industry partners. For more information, please visit [scaonline.com](http://scaonline.com).

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