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CORRESPONDENCE

J. EDWARD AULD

5/30/97

PRESIDENT
ROCO CARTAGE & DELIVERY, INC.
63 DIXIE HIGHWAY
PO BOX 938
TOLEDO, OHIO 43695-0938

Telephone 1-419-666-4896
Fax 1-419-666-7757

OST-97-2557-5

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET SECTION

97 JUN -6 PM 3:30

U. S. Department of Transportation
Att: DOT Docket Office (OST-97-2557)
400 Seventh St.
Washington, D. C. 20590

RE: Air Tran Airways Service to Laguardia, New York

Dear Sirs,

My company is one of the largest air freight pick up and delivery contractors in Northwest Ohio. We are writing to encourage your favorable approval of air service between Toledo Express Airport and LaGuardia Airport in New York.

Currently, with no direct link to this major market, air freight destined for Northwest Ohio distribution is routed through either Cleveland Hopkins or Detroit Metro Airport facilities. As we have observed the steady increase in air freight traffic on commercial airlines over the past several years, we have also witnessed declining service levels due to the late arrival of freight into Northwest Ohio because of the lack of direct service to major distribution areas such as LaGuardia.

Northwest Ohio is served as a "second day" airfreight distribution area because of the delayed arrivals times. Approving service for AirTrans would provide additional lift in and out of Toledo Express to New York, a major improvement in air freight service levels in the rapidly developing Northwest Ohio area.

I would add the the Northwest Ohio area is one of the most rapidly developing economies in the country, and has been the leading area within the State of Ohio for job growth and economic development. The growth in business, especially companies involved in international trade, gives credence to establishing improved freight distribution capabilities to enhance the Northwest Ohio status as a world port and major distribution center.

I encourage your approval of the authority required for air Trans to begin serice to LaGuardia as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
J. Edward Auld, President

1 pg