The Research Triangle Area of North Carolina is a region of intense research and development with a global presence. The Raleigh Executive Jetport in Sanford/Lee County is an essential part of the business infrastructure, and serves as a premier corporate gateway to Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill.

In early 2013, Michael Baker International, LLC in Raleigh, North Carolina, developed plans to upgrade and reconstruct this facility. The project called for the reconstruction of the entire runway. The project increased the runway’s weight capacity from 80,000 to 100,000 pounds. Replacement of the runway’s lighting with energy efficient LED bulbs, increasing safety and reduced operating cost, also was scheduled.

The reconstruction had an accelerated construction schedule to minimize the closure of the airport. Raleigh Executive Jetport received bids on May 16, 2013. The Fred Smith Company was awarded the project and subcontracted the work to ACPA-SE member Slurry Pavers of Richmond, Virginia, that specializes in using full-depth reclamation (FDR) with cement on airport projects. The airport was closed for reconstruction on September 4, 2013.

The first priority for Slurry Pavers was to pulverize the entire runway, followed by grading and removal of excess materials. Having everything at grade, Slurry Pavers began the FDR process, which it completed in 11 days. On October 24, just 50 days after closing, a ribbon cutting ceremony announced the reopening of the Raleigh Executive Jetport.

The Raleigh Executive Jetport’s runway was reconstructed using FDR at a depth of 12 inches, which utilized 2,050 tons of portland cement and covered an area of 72,500 square yards.

Today, a stronger resurfaced runway with better lighting greets all pilots coming to the Research Triangle Area of North Carolina. The use of FDR with cement was instrumental in increasing the load capacity and in accelerating the completion of the project.

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