

## Gothenburg home to 'airport of the year'

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The Gothenburg Airport was recently named "Airport of the Year" for 2012 by the Nebraska Department of Aeronautics.

Airport manager Dennis Brown and his wife, Carol, who serves as airport secretary, and Airport Authority board member Rick Fiese received the award last Thursday in Kearney during a conference of general airports in Nebraska.

Rick Fiese's father "Kak" was the first local airport manager.

The Gothenburg Airport was recognized for regaining its vitality after 15 years of deterioration because of poor management, award nominators said.

Since then, a flight school has been re-established, an ag-spraying business is operating, multiple airport events have been hosted, a new hanger built and more.

Brown said the award will help make the airport eligible for federal grant money.

"Gothenburg is a wonderful community and deserves a healthy airport," Brown said at the awards ceremony.