

HISTORY

RAVN ALASKA BRAND



ERA AVIATION

Era Helicopters began in 1948 when Carl Brady flew the first commercial helicopter to Alaska to work on a mapping contract for the U.S. government. Over the next thirty years, Era Helicopters would be acquired by Rowan Companies and continue to grow into what would become a world-class off-shore oil support operation in addition to being a major player in the construction of the Alyeska Pipeline. It was during the construction of the pipeline that Era started its fixed-wing division with DeHaviland Twin Otters and Convair 580 aircraft. In the 1980s, Era began providing scheduled service with their fixed-wing fleet to Valdez, Kenai, Kodiak, Cordova and Homer. The Twin Otter fleet found a home operating out of Bethel to many of the small communities surrounding it. In 1988, Era Helicopters formally changed its name to Era Aviation.

In December of 2004, Rowan Companies sold Era Aviation to Seacor Holdings for \$118 million. In July of 2005, Seacor subsequently negotiated and sold the fixed-wing airline division to Era Aviation Investment Group LLC for \$15 million and spun off the helicopter division into its own company, Era Helicopters LLC. The newly owned Era Aviation went through a brief turbulent time and Chapter 11 filing of bankruptcy in September of 2006 due to financial conflicts caused by multiple sales and subsequent lawsuits over misrepresentations during sales. Era emerged from bankruptcy filing in December of 2006 under new leadership and with a reorganization plan. Era was honed into the Dash 8 and Beechcraft 1900 operator that was well suited to join the Frontier/Hageland airgroup briefly named Frontier Alaska.

In March of 2009, Era Aviation was acquired by HoTH, Inc., and the air group was renamed Era Alaska. This family of companies formed the largest air group in the state by serving more cities and passengers with the largest airplane fleet in Alaska. Era's scheduled regional passenger and cargo flights offer comfort, convenience and impeccable service primarily using a combination of Bombardier Dash 8 and Beechcraft 1900D and 1900C aircraft.

FRONTIER FLYING SERVICE

Retired Air Force Col. Richard McIntyre founded Frontier Flying Service in 1950, catering to Alaska bush communities primarily around Fairbanks. The company provided charters throughout the state as well as mail service for Wien Air Alaska.

In 1974, John Hajdukovich purchased Frontier. With the advent of airline deregulation in 1978, Frontier branched out into scheduled service by getting its own air carrier certificate. Throughout the 80s and 90s, Frontier continued to grow into a strong, Fairbanks-based operation that progressed toward larger aircraft like the Beechcraft 99 with 15 seats. It was in 1997 that a new rule required that companies operating aircraft with more than nine seats convert their operations to Part 121 of the Federal Aviation Regulations. This transition was very trying, but Frontier survived as one of the few companies in the state to have successfully converted to Part 121. With this new conversion in place, it allowed the company to grow into Beechcraft 1900-sized equipment (19 seats), and over the next several years, it started service from Fairbanks to Anchorage and began to explore many other longer haul routes in the state. With the advent of the Rural Service Improvement Act of 2002, which really redefined the rules of engagement for small airlines, the company continued to grow with its acquisition in 2005 of Cape Smythe Air Services assets, taking on that company's equipment and infrastructure.

Frontier and Hageland Aviation Services began talks in 2008, eventually combining their forces to form HoTH, the parent company of the Frontier Alaska group of carriers. In this new partnership, Frontier mainly provided service between major Alaska hub communities utilizing its Part 121 certificate, while Hageland provided scheduled service out of the hubs to smaller communities. The combined operations made these two airlines the largest commuter operation in the state by fleet size and number of routes.

In 2009, HoTH acquired Era Aviation and changed the air group brand to Era Alaska, which completed the family tree of aviation companies. In October of 2009, HoTH also acquired Arctic Circle Air Service and began operating its two cargo-only Sherpa aircraft, which were later integrated into the Frontier certificate. Arctic Circle was sold in December of 2011 once the aircraft were moved to Frontier.

HAGELAND AVIATION SERVICES

Founded in Mountain Village by Mike Hageland, Hageland Aviation began operations in September 1981 with just one Cessna 180. A veteran of the Army European Command with experience as a flight engineer in Vietnam, Hageland began his Alaska operations by transporting passengers and cargo to the state's smaller communities.

In the 1980s, Tom Hawkins became a partner, and the company added more aircraft, pilots and routes, including the Aniak, McGrath and Unalakleet regions served by Ron and James Tweto. In the 1990s, Hageland continued to expand into Bethel, St. Mary's, Kotzebue, Barrow and Nome.

As the 20th century approached its end, Hageland continued to add planes to its fleet, including its first Cessna Caravan II. While bulking its numbers to nearly 20 aircraft, the company maintained safety as a priority by becoming an active member in the Alaska Aviation Safety Foundation and the Alaska Air Carrier Association in 2000.

The new century brought the relocation of Hageland headquarters to the Reeve Aleutian Airways facility near the Anchorage International Airport and more growth. Hageland expanded into Beechcraft 1900 operations as a result of the Rural Service Improvement Act and over the next seven years battled head to head with Frontier in many of its hubs. Hageland's strength in Part 135 operations (governing aircraft with less than nine seats) combined with the Era Aviation and Frontier strengths in Part 121 operations has led to a very strong air group serving more than 100 rural and urban communities in Alaska with daily service. Today, Hageland is one of the nation's largest Part 135 scheduled

airline operations with more than 50 aircraft in service from Cessna C207s to Beechcraft 1900s. Hageland continues to innovate in safety initiatives and aircraft equipment to handle the challenging environment of Alaska operations.

RAVN ALASKA

The Era Alaska brand is currently undergoing a rebranding effort to become Ravn Alaska. Ravn Alaska includes Era Aviation and Ravn Connect, which is made up of Hageland Aviation Services and Frontier Flying Service.

The reservations system used by Ravn Alaska is owned by Era Aviation and offers its services as well as the services of the companies of Ravn Connect. The Ravn Alaska website and general marketing image is managed by HoTH.

Flights numbered 001-999 are operated by Era Aviation as Ravn Alaska. Flights numbered 3000-3999 are operated by Hageland Aviation Services as Ravn Connect.