



March 4, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NPI – Carrie Mathes, FNIGP, CFCM, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, C.P.M., CPPB, APP, FCCM
aep@npiconnection.org

APG – Jana Vargas jvargas@san.org

The National Procurement Institute, Inc. (NPI) and the Airport Procurement Group (APG) are pleased to announce the formation of a new strategic partnership in support of the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement® (AEP) program.

This partnership recognizes the critical role airport procurement professionals play in advancing strategic, transparent, and innovative practices within the aviation industry. By welcoming the Airport Procurement Group as an AEP Award Sponsor Organization, NPI reinforces a shared commitment to procurement excellence, professional development, and high-performance operations that deliver value and accountability in public service.

“Airport Procurement Group has established itself as a respected leader in advancing procurement collaboration and best practices within the aviation industry,” said Carrie Mathes, FNIGP, CFCM, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, C.P.M., CPPB, APP, FCCM, AEP Officer for the National Procurement Institute. “We are proud to welcome APG as an AEP Sponsor Organization and to partner in promoting procurement excellence, innovation, and professional recognition across airport agencies nationwide.”

“APG is honored to serve as a sponsor for the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement® (AEP) award” said Jana Vargas, President of APG. “This sponsorship reflects APG’s commitment to supporting and advancing excellence in airport procurement practices. APG strives to enhance the effectiveness of its member airport procurement professionals by promoting education, sharing best practices, and encouraging collaboration. Sponsoring the AEP award further reinforces APG’s dedication to these core values, supporting the professional advancement and success of its membership.”

ABOUT NPI - The National Procurement Institute, founded in 1968 as a non-profit organization, serves public procurement professionals internationally. NPI is focused on leading excellence in public procurement. The Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award, established by NPI in 1995, recognizes organizations that demonstrate commitment to innovation, professionalism, productivity, e- procurement, and leadership attributes.

ABOUT APG – Founded in 2007, the Airport Procurement Group (APG) represents procurement professionals across the airport industry. Its membership includes individuals from county and local government units, as well as airport authorities around the world. APG provides members with unique opportunities to connect and collaborate with other airport procurement professionals, helping to build a robust network of expertise and support throughout the industry.