

Munz Northern Airlines Wins Certification

ANCHORAGE — Munz Northern Airlines of Nome has just become the nation's smallest Civil Aeronautics Board certified scheduled air carrier, according to Richard Galleher, president of the firm.

Galleher said that certification of Munz Northern Airlines was made on Aug. 21, giving the north Alaskan air carrier authority to service the route from Nome to Kotzebue including intermediary points of Taylor, Deering, Candle and Buckland.

Other communities served on unscheduled stops from the Nome Airport base are Little Diomed Island, Emmonak, Alakanuk, Stebbins, Golovin and 17 other arctic region communities.

According to Galleher, the airline was founded by early Alaskan bush pilot Bill Munz in 1938, the same year in which the Civil Aeronautics Board was formed.

Munz Northern Airlines has operated under a grandfather clause since 1942, although Galleher purchased the airline in 1962. The recent C.A.B. certification was a transfer of the original certificate that authorized the operation of the airline from its inception.

The addition of Munz Northern Airlines bring to four the number of Alaska-based C.A.B. certificated scheduled air carriers. Others are Wien Air Alaska, Reeve-Aleutian and Kodiak Western Airlines.

With a fleet of six aircraft ranging from a six-place Cessna to the 13 passenger Dornier, Munz Northern Airlines currently serves the north Alaskan flying public with a staff of 29 persons.