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On April 12, 2011, in [Associations & Organizations](#), [Marketing, Public Relations, Design, Media & Communications](#), [Pinellas County](#), by Press Release

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–CEO of FedEx Corporation Honored for Contributions to Commercial Aviation–

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. (April 2011) – At a press conference held at the Tampa Bay History Center, Frederick W. Smith, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of FedEx, the world’s most recognized and successful shipping corporation, has been named the recipient of the 2011 Tony Jannus Award.

Celebrating those with outstanding achievements, leadership and perseverance within the airlines industry, the Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society will present the award to Smith at a dinner banquet at the Tampa Airport Marriott on Thursday, October 27, 2011.

The Tony Jannus Award selection committee chose Smith as this year’s winner for establishing FedEx as an internationally renowned shipping corporation. The driving force behind FedEx since founding the company in 1971, Smith’s leadership has helped contribute to the expansion of FedEx Corporation to over 200 countries and territories around the world. As a member of the Aviation Hall of Fame, Smith has demonstrated his profound knowledge and skills within the aviation world. Throughout his career, Smith has aimed to make the use of aircrafts one of the primary modes of transportation for shipments, and has been an active proponent of regulatory reforms, free trade, and the ”open skies agreement”.

At FedEx, each day, more than 285,000 team members worldwide handle more than 8 million shipments via

80,000 vehicles and 694 air craft carriers. Due to the large amount of transporation, FedEx has made it a priority to promote energy effective modes of transporation that are safe for the environment.

As a U.S. Marine Corps officer and graduate of Yale University, Smith learned how to be an influential leader during his early years. Throughout his career he has won several awards including: The George C. Marshall Foundation Award, the Circle of Honor Award from the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, the Lone Sailor Award from the U.S. Navy Memorial, and the President's Award from the Transportation Research Forum.

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Smith has also served on several boards of large public companies including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and Mayo Foundation Boards. He has also been a chairman for the Board of Governors for the International Air Transport Association and the U.S. Air Transport Association. Each of these leadership positions have lead Smith to receive some of the top awards as *Barron's Magazine's* "World's Best CEO" and *Chief Executive Magazine's* 2004 "CEO of the Year'.

About the Tony Jannus Award: Since its first nominee in 1964, the Tony Jannus list of winners has grown to a virtual "Who's Who" in the industry, including such luminaries as Brigadier General Charles Yeager, Donald W. Douglas, Sr., Capt. Edward V. Rickenbacker, Col. Frank Borman, Herb Kelleher, Sir Richard Branson, Joseph Leonard, Colleen Barrett and the 2008 honoree Larry Kellner of Continental Airlines. In addition to the Tony Jannus Award program, the Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society recognizes outstanding local students with an annual essay contest and presents cash awards to deserving university students as part of the Society's Scholarships Awards Program.

The Tampa and St. Petersburg Chambers of Commerce established The Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society in 1964. The Smithsonian Institute recognized Tony Jannus as the founder of the world's first scheduled airline. The airline – which began flights on New Year's Day, 1914 – had only one plane, a single-engine Benoist flying boat that flew round trips daily between Tampa and St. Petersburg, Florida. For more information on the Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society please visit TonyJannus.org.

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