# SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND CORPORATE CONCEPTS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

This Services Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into and effective August 31, 2023 (the "Effective Date"), by and between The Texas A&M University System (hereafter referred to as "A&M System"), an agency of the state of Texas, and Corporate Concepts International, Inc., a Texas corporation (hereafter referred to as "PROVIDER"). A&M System and PROVIDER are sometimes hereafter referred to as "Party" individually or "Parties" collectively).

A&M System and PROVIDER hereby agree as follows:

### 1. SCOPE OF WORK

PROVIDER will perform the services as set forth in <u>Exhibit A</u>, Scope of Work and Payment Terms, attached hereto ("Services"), in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions contained in this Agreement.

### 2. PROVIDER OBLIGATIONS

- A. PROVIDER will perform the Services in accordance with the standards of care, skill, and diligence expected of a qualified, competent and experienced professional in the provision of the type of services required under this Agreement.
- B. PROVIDER will perform the Services substantially in accordance with PROVIDER's marketing materials and documentation, including without limitation, any user guides, technical specifications, training materials, instructions, documented policies or other written materials regarding the Services that are posted, delivered or otherwise made available by PROVIDER to A&M SYSTEM.
- C. PROVIDER will obtain, maintain in effect, and pay the cost for all licenses, permits, or certifications that may be necessary for PROVIDER's performance of this Agreement.
- D. PROVIDER represents and warrants that there are no obligations, commitments, third party rights, or impediments of any kind that will limit or prevent PROVIDER's performance of the Services.

# 3. TERM AND TERMINATION

- A. This Agreement will commence on the Effective Date and continues for three (3) months (the "Term"), unless earlier terminated as provided herein. The Term of the Agreement may be extended on a month to month basis, upon mutual written agreement executed by the Parties.
- B. In the event of a breach of a material term of this Agreement by a Party, the non-defaulting Party may terminate this Agreement upon fifteen (15) days' prior written notice to the other Party detailing the nature of the breach and the other Party fails to fully cure the breach within such 15-day period. In the event that A&M System terminates this Agreement pursuant to this Section, A&M System shall receive a pro-rata refund of any pre-paid amounts.
- C. A&M System may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days' prior written notice to PROVIDER. PROVIDER may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days prior written notice, provided that PROVIDER will reimburse A&M System all advance payments paid by A&M System to PROVIDER that were (a) not earned by PROVIDER prior to termination, or (b) for services that A&M System did not receive from PROVIDER prior to termination.

D. A&M System may immediately terminate this Agreement if the PROVIDER declares bankruptcy, is placed into involuntary bankruptcy or receivership or becomes insolvent.

# 4. PAYMENT TERMS

- A. In full consideration for the Services rendered by PROVIDER under this Agreement, A&M System shall pay PROVIDER in accordance with the terms set forth in <a href="Exhibit A">Exhibit A</a>, Scope of Work and Payment Terms, attached hereto. The total compensation to PROVIDER under this Agreement will not exceed twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$28,000) plus actual expenses, without an amendment to this Agreement.
- B. PROVIDER will submit invoices to A&M System pre the terms outlined in <a href="Exhibit A">Exhibit A</a>, Scope of Work and Payment Terms. Each invoice must reference the A&M System purchase order number (which will be provided to PROVIDER within 15 days of the execution of this Agreement) and include a description of services provided to include but not limited to time, deliverables, and activities along with documentation that A&M System may reasonably request to support the invoice amount. A&M System will make payment on a properly prepared and submitted invoice in accordance with Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code (the "Texas Prompt Payment Act"), which shall govern remittance of payment and remedies for late payment and non-payment.
- C. For reasonable business-related travel, lodging and/or meal expenses validly incurred directly and solely in support of the Services and approved by A&M System in advance, PROVIDER will be reimbursed by A&M System according to the State of Texas rates, rules, and regulations (<a href="https://fmx.cpa.texas.gov/fmx/travel/textravel/rates/current.php">https://fmx.cpa.texas.gov/fmx/travel/textravel/rates/current.php</a>). When requesting such reimbursement, PROVIDER will submit to A&M System receipts, invoices and other documentation as required by A&M System. Under no circumstances will PROVIDER be reimbursed for alcohol purchases. State travel rates are subject to change without notice and will be adjusted accordingly. Mileage rates will be calculated from point-to-point (PROVIDER's place of business to job site) using the State of Texas mileage. Should the Agreement be renewed for an additional term, travel reimbursement amounts will be renegotiated at that time.
- D. All payments will be made by electronic direct deposit. PROVIDER is required to complete and submit to A&M System a Vendor Direct Deposit Authorization form prior to the first payment request. The form can be accessed at: https://www.tamus.edu/business/budgets-and-accounting/accounting/general/

# 5. OWNERSHIP OF CREATED WORKS

PROVIDER irrevocably assigns, transfers and conveys to A&M System, for no additional consideration, all of PROVIDER's ownership, rights, title and interest in and to all works prepared by PROVIDER under this Agreement ("Deliverables"), including, without limitation, all copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade secrets and other intellectual property rights and all other rights that may hereafter be vested relating to the Deliverables under law. PROVIDER certifies that all Deliverables will be original, or that PROVIDER will have obtained all rights necessary for the ownership and unrestricted use of the Deliverables by A&M System. PROVIDER shall secure for A&M System all consents, releases, and contracts and perform other reasonable acts as A&M System may deem necessary to secure and evidence A&M System's rights in any Deliverable.

### 6. **CONFIDENTIALITY**

A. The Parties anticipate that under this Agreement it may be necessary for a Party (the "Disclosing Party") to transfer information of a confidential nature ("Confidential Information") to the other Party (the "Receiving Party"). The Disclosing Party shall clearly identify Confidential Information at the time of disclosure by (i) appropriate stamp or markings on the document exchanged, or (ii)

written notice, with attached listings of all material, copies of all documents, and complete summaries of all oral disclosures (under prior assertion of the confidential nature of the same) to which each notice relates, delivered within thirty (30) days of the disclosure to the other party. "Confidential Information" does not include information that: (i) is or becomes publicly known or available other than as a result of a breach of this Agreement by the Receiving Party; (ii) was already in the possession of the Receiving Party as the result of disclosure by an individual or entity that was not then obligated to keep that information confidential; (iii) the Disclosing Party had disclosed or discloses to an individual or entity without confidentiality restrictions; or (iv) the Receiving Party had developed or develops independently before or after the Disclosing Party discloses equivalent information to the Receiving Party.

- B. The Receiving Party shall use the same reasonable efforts to protect the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information as it uses to protect its own confidential information of a similar nature. The Receiving Party may only disclose Confidential Information to its personnel having a need to know the Confidential Information to fulfill the Receiving Party's obligations under this Agreement. The Receiving Party may not reproduce, disclose, or use Confidential Information except in performing its obligations under this Agreement. If the Receiving Party is legally required to disclose Confidential Information, the Receiving Party shall, to the extent allowed by law, promptly give the Disclosing Party written notice of the requirement so as to provide the Disclosing Party a reasonable opportunity to pursue appropriate process to prevent or limit the disclosure. If the Receiving Party complies with the terms of this Section, disclosure of that portion of the Confidential Information, which the Receiving Party is legally required to disclose, will not constitute a breach of this Agreement.
- C. The Receiving Party shall, upon request of the Disclosing Party, promptly return or destroy all materials embodying Confidential Information other than materials in electronic backup systems or otherwise not reasonably capable of being readily located and segregated without undue burden or expense, except that the Receiving Party may securely retain one (1) copy in its files solely for record purposes. The Receiving Party's obligations as to Confidential Information will survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement for a period of three (3) years.

# 7. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

- A. PROVIDER shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations applicable to the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.
- B. Each Party shall comply with U.S. export control regulations. If either Party desires to disclose to the other Party any information, technology, or data that is identified on any U.S. export control list, the disclosing Party shall advise the other Party at or before the time of intended disclosure and may not provide export-controlled information to the other Party without the written consent of the other Party. PROVIDER certifies that none of its personnel participating in the activities under this Agreement is a "restricted party" as listed on the Denied Persons List, Entity List, and Unverified List (U.S. Department of Commerce), the Debarred Parties Lists (U.S. Department of State), the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (U.S. Department of Treasury), or any similar governmental lists.

# 8. INDEMNIFICATION

PROVIDER shall indemnify and hold harmless A&M System, and their regents, employees and agents (collectively, the "A&M System Indemnitees") from and against any third-party claims, damages, liabilities, expense or loss asserted against A&M System Indemnities arising out of any acts or omissions of PROVIDER or its employees or agents pertaining to the activities and obligations under this Agreement, except to the extent such liability, loss or damage arises from an A&M System Indemnitee's gross negligence or willful

misconduct. A&M System, to the extent authorized under the Constitution and the laws of the state of Texas, shall indemnify and hold harmless PROVIDER and its agents (collectively, the "PROVIDER Indemnitees")\_from and against any third-party claims, damages, liabilities, expense or loss asserted against PROVIDER Indemnitees pertaining to the opinions, activities and obligations under this Agreement, except to the extent such liability, loss or damage arises from a PROVIDER Indemnitees' gross negligence or willful misconduct.

## 9. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the entire and only agreement between the Parties hereto and supersedes any prior understanding, written or oral agreements between the Parties, or "side deals" which are not described in this Agreement. This Agreement may be amended only by a subsequent written agreement signed by authorized representatives of both parties. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Agreement and any other documents constituting part of this Agreement, the terms of this Agreement shall control.
- B. **Authority to Contract.** Each Party represents and warrants that it has full right, power and authority to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement, and that the person signing this Agreement is duly authorized to enter into this Agreement on its behalf.
- C. Representations & Warranties. If PROVIDER is a business entity, PROVIDER warrants, represents, covenants, and agrees that it is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the state of its incorporation or organization and is duly authorized and in good standing to conduct business in the State of Texas, that it has all necessary power and has received all necessary approvals to execute and deliver this Agreement, and the individual executing this Agreement on behalf of PROVIDER has been duly authorized to act for and bind PROVIDER.
- D. Independent Contractor. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the Parties hereto are independent contractors. No employer-employee, partnership, agency, or joint venture relationship is created by this Agreement or by PROVIDER's Service to A&M System. Except as specifically required under the terms of this Agreement, PROVIDER (and its representatives, agents, employees and subcontractors) will not represent themselves to be an agent or representative of A&M System. As an independent contractor, PROVIDER is solely responsible for all taxes, withholdings, and other statutory or contractual obligations of any sort, including but not limited to workers' compensation insurance. PROVIDER and its employees shall observe and abide by all applicable A&M System policies, regulations, rules and procedures, including those applicable to conduct on its premises.
- E. **Use of Name.** Each Party acknowledges that all rights in any trademarks, service marks, slogans, logos, designs, and other similar means of distinction associated with that Party (its "Marks"), including all goodwill pertaining to the Marks, are the sole property of that Party. Neither Party may use the Marks of the other without the advance written consent of that Party, except that each Party may use the name of the other Party in factual statements that, in context, are not misleading. The Parties will mutually agree in advance upon any public announcements, or communications to the media regarding this Agreement or the Services to be provided pursuant to this Agreement.
- F. **Non-Assignment.** PROVIDER shall neither assign its rights nor delegate its duties under this Agreement without the prior written consent of A&M System.
- G. **Severability.** In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions hereof, and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, and unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

The Parties agree that any alterations, additions, or deletions to the provisions of the Agreement that are required by changes in federal or state law or regulations are automatically incorporated into the Agreement without written amendment hereto and shall become effective on the date designated by such law or by regulation.

- H. **Survival.** Any provision of this Agreement that may reasonably be interpreted as being intended by the Parties to survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement will survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.
- I. Force Majeure. Neither Party shall be held liable or responsible to the other Party nor be deemed to have defaulted under or breached this Agreement for failure or delay in fulfilling or performing any obligation under this Agreement if and to the extent such failure or delay is caused by or results from causes beyond the affected Party's reasonable control, including, but not limited to, acts of God, strikes, riots, flood, fire, epidemics, natural disaster, embargoes, war, insurrection, terrorist acts or any other circumstances of like character; provided, however, that the affected Party has not caused such force majeure event(s), shall use reasonable commercial efforts to avoid or remove such causes of nonperformance, and shall continue performance hereunder with reasonable dispatch whenever such causes are removed. Either Party shall provide the other Party with prompt written notice of any delay or failure to perform that occurs by reason of force majeure, including describing the force majeure event(s) and the actions taken to minimize the impact of such event(s).
- J. Notices. Any notice required or permitted under this Agreement must be in writing, and shall be deemed given: (i) three (3) business days after it is deposited and post-marked with the United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, certified mail, return receipt requested, (ii) the next business day after it is sent by overnight carrier, (iii) on the date sent by email transmission with electronic confirmation of receipt by the party being notified, or (iv) on the date of delivery if delivered personally. A&M System and PROVIDER can change their respective notice address by sending to the other Party a notice of the new address. Notices should be addressed as follows:

A&M System: The Texas A&M University System

301 Tarrow St., Suite 273 College Station, Texas 77840 Attention: Jeff Zimmermann Phone: (979) 458-6410

E-mail: jzimmermann@tamus.edu

PROVIDER: Corporate Concepts International, Inc.

13000 Spanish Oaks Club Drive, 2

Austin TX 78738

Attention: Dennis A. Blackburn

Phone: 832-647-7581

Email: blackburn@flycci.com

- K. Governing Law. The validity of this Agreement and all matters pertaining to this Agreement, including but not limited to, matters of performance, non-performance, breach, remedies, procedures, rights, duties, and interpretation or construction, shall be governed and determined by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas.
- L. **Venue.** Pursuant to Section 85.18(b), *Texas Education Code*, mandatory venue for all legal proceedings against A&M System is to be in the county in which the principal office of A&M System's governing officer is located.

- M. **Non-Waiver.** A&M System is an agency of the state of Texas and under the Constitution and the laws of the state of Texas possesses certain rights and privileges, is subject to certain limitations and restrictions, and only has authority as is granted to it under the Constitution and the laws of the state of Texas. PROVIDER expressly acknowledges that A&M System is an agency of the state of Texas and nothing in this Agreement will be construed as a waiver or relinquishment by A&M System of its right to claim such exemptions, remedies, privileges, and immunities as may be provided by law, including the sovereign immunity of A&M System.
- N. **Dispute Resolution.** To the extent that Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code is applicable to this Agreement, the dispute resolution process provided in Chapter 2260, and the related rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, shall be used by A&M System and PROVIDER to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by PROVIDER that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. PROVIDER shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this Chapter to the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer of A&M System, who shall examine PROVIDER's claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with PROVIDER in an effort to resolve the claim. This provision and nothing in this Agreement waives A&M System's sovereign immunity to suit or liability, and A&M System has not waived its right to seek redress in the courts.
- O. Public Information Act. PROVIDER acknowledges that A&M System is obligated to strictly comply with the Public Information Act, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, in responding to any request for public information pertaining to this Agreement, as well as any other disclosure of information required by applicable Texas law. Upon A&M System's written request, PROVIDER will promptly provide specified contracting information exchanged or created under this Agreement for or on behalf of A&M System to A&M System in a non-proprietary format acceptable to A&M System that is accessible by the public. PROVIDER acknowledges that A&M System may be required to post a copy of the fully executed Agreement on its Internet website in compliance with Section 2261.253(a)(1), Texas Government Code. The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, may apply to this Agreement and PROVIDER agrees that this Agreement can be terminated if PROVIDER knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.
- P. Certification Regarding Business with Certain Countries and Organizations. PROVIDER represents and warrants that it is not engaged in business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization, as prohibited by Section 2252.152, Texas Government Code. PROVIDER acknowledges this Agreement may be terminated immediately if this certification is inaccurate.
- Q. **Delinquent Child Support Obligations.** A child support obligor who is more than 30 days delinquent in paying child support and a business entity in which the obligor is a sole proprietor, partner, shareholder, or owner with an ownership interest of at least 25 percent is not eligible to receive payments from state funds under an agreement to provide property, materials, or services until all arrearages have been paid or the obligor is in compliance with a written repayment agreement or court order as to any existing delinquency. Under Section 231.006, Texas Family Code, PROVIDER certifies that it is not ineligible to receive the payments under this Agreement and acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
- R. **Payment of Debt or Delinquency to the State.** Pursuant to Sections 2107.008 and 2252.903, Texas Government Code, PROVIDER agrees that any payments owing to PROVIDER under this Agreement may be applied directly toward certain debts or delinquencies that PROVIDER owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas regardless of when they arise, until such debts or delinquencies are paid in full.

- S. **State Auditor's Office.** PROVIDER understands that acceptance of funds under this Agreement constitutes acceptance of the authority of the Texas State Auditor's Office, or any successor agency (collectively, "Auditor"), to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds pursuant to Section 51.9335(c), Texas Education Code. PROVIDER agrees to cooperate with the Auditor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including without limitation, providing all records requested. PROVIDER will include this provision in all contracts with permitted subcontractors.
- T. Loss of Funding. Performance by A&M System under this Agreement may be dependent upon the appropriation and allotment of funds by the Texas State Legislature (the "Legislature"). If the Legislature fails to appropriate or allot the necessary funds, A&M System will issue written notice to PROVIDER and A&M System may terminate this Agreement without further duty or obligation hereunder. PROVIDER acknowledges that appropriation of funds is beyond the control of A&M System. In the event of a termination or cancellation under this Section, A&M System will not be liable to PROVIDER for any damages that are caused or associated with such termination or cancellation.
- U. **Prior Employment.** PROVIDER acknowledges that Section 2252.901, Texas Government Code, prohibits A&M System from using state appropriated funds to enter into an employment contract, a professional services contract under Chapter 2254, or a consulting services contract under Chapter 2254 with individual who has been previously employed by A&M System during the twelve (12) month period immediately prior to the effective date of the Agreement. If PROVIDER is an individual, by signing this Agreement, PROVIDER represents and warrants that it is not a former or retired employee of A&M System that was employed by A&M System during the twelve (12) month period immediately prior to the effective date of the Agreement.
- V. **Conflict of Interest.** PROVIDER certifies, to the best of their knowledge and belief, that no member of the A&M System's Board of Regents, nor any employee of A&M System, has a direct or indirect financial interest in PROVIDER or in the transaction that is the subject of the Agreement.
- W. **Franchise Tax Certification.** If PROVIDER is a taxable entity subject to the Texas Franchise Tax (Chapter 171, *Texas Tax Code*), then PROVIDER certifies that it is not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise (margin) taxes or that PROVIDER is exempt from the payment of franchise (margin) taxes.
- X. **Not Eligible for Rehire.** PROVIDER is responsible for ensuring that its employees involved in any work being performed for A&M System under this Agreement have not been designated as "Not Eligible for Rehire" as defined in System policy 32.02, *Discipline and Dismissal of Employees*, Section 4 ("NEFR Employee"). In the event A&M System becomes aware that PROVIDER has a NEFR Employee involved in any work being performed under this Agreement, A&M System will have the sole right to demand removal of such NEFR Employee from work being performed under this Agreement. Non-conformance to this requirement may be grounds for termination of this Agreement by A&M System.

(SIGNATURES TO FOLLOW ON NEXT PAGE)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have entered into this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

The Texas A&IVI University System	Corporate Concepts International, Inc.
Docusigned by:  Jeff Eimmermann  By	Dennis Blackburn
Jeff Zimmermann	Dennis Blackburn
Executive Director, Procurement	President
8/31/2023	8/31/2023
Date	Date

### **EXHIBIT A – SCOPE OF WORK AND PAYMENT TERMS**

Responsible Party: Dennis A. Blackburn, President.

Onsite audit team: Auditors, Larry Wright and Chris Zarnik

Physical visit to College Station: To be mutually agreed to by the Parties.

Visit will require ½ day travel to College Station, arriving and meeting at 12:00 noon at Texas A&M aviation offices/hangar; ½ day travel to be onsite for ½ day evaluation and interviews. Second day, finish interviews, gathering of data and evaluation of operations, and auditors to depart at 6:00PM.

Professional fees are based on \$450 per hour or \$4,500 per day for Larry Wright. \$450 per hour or \$4,500 per day for Chris Zarnik and Dennis Blackburn is \$595 per hour or \$5,950 per day.

# Estimated budget:

Before departure review of documents in preparation for onsite visit to Texas A&M aviation operation: - \$2500, collectively by Blackburn, Wright, and Zarnik.

Day one: travel ½ day and ½ day onsite interviewing aviation staff, evaluating aircraft, evaluation of logbooks and maintenance records and evaluation of flight operation.

Zarnik and Wright combined onsite fee: \$9,000 per day plus actual travel expenses.

Day two: complete interviews and evaluation of operation and ½ day travel back to domicile. Zarnik and Wright combined onsite fee: \$9,000 per day plus actual travel expenses.

Post visit evaluation of findings and preparing final report with recommendations. Blackburn, Zarnik, Wright. Submit report with findings, recommendations including but not limited to the best practices for all aspects of the flight operation, required changes or additions and the necessary risk management procedures of the flight operation, including maintenance. A. separate document will address the comments from the departing pilot. If there are alternative considerations for the flight operation, those will be included: \$7,500.

Additional services and cost may be added should CCI determine review of maintenance records housed in the Dallas, TX maintenance facility is required.

Total budget for initial services and work product: \$28,000 plus travel incurred by Wright and Zarnik for coach airline fares, expected to be approximately \$800 each, local hotel in College Station, two rooms for one night, meals for two days, airport parking for two days at departure airports, ground transportation in College Station.

This pricing is valid for services and work products prior to October 17, 2023.

Retainer required: waived.

Payment is due as follows: \$14,000 plus actual travel expenses due within ten calendar days of completion of onsite visit and receipt of invoice final payment of \$14,000 due within ten calendar days of receipt of final report.

Any additional work will be discussed in good faith and priced based on the additional work product required.