For executives tired of the headaches that can be found at large metro-based airports, flying into regional corporate and general aviation airports might ease the pain.

In West Chicago, the DuPage Airport is a 2,800-acre facility that is home to 33 businesses, a newly renovated flight center with a fixed base operator, a new high-tech business park and a championship-style golf course.

Of that acreage, 1,200-acres are dedicated to aircraft activities, featuring more than 700,000 square feet of hangar space, a 24/7 traffic control tower, and four runways that can accommodate large business jets.

“We have a lot of capacity to service business aircraft, which is nearly 90 percent of our activity,” says David Bird, executive director, DuPage Airport Authority. This capacity includes hangars of different sizes to accommodate any class of business aircraft. In the last year, 108,000 square feet of hangar space was added at the airport.

The DuPage National Technology Park’s 800-acre master plan was recently finalized. The infrastructure for the park is almost completely in place. The first 176,000-square-foot manufacturing and distribution facility has been approved for development.

Bird says the park will feature two different developments. The northern area of the development will be a campus setting, home to a majority of technology-based companies. Argonne National Labs is finalizing plans for its new facility. The University of Illinois plans to build an incubator at the development.

“The park is proximate to Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, which is immediately south of the airport,” Bird says. “There is a synergistic relationship between these different research entities, which will attract R&D firms to the park.”

The second development in the park will suit light manufacturing and distribution operations. “We are surrounded by major arterials so you can get to and from where you are going in an efficient way,” Bird says.

The efficiencies of regional corporate and general aviation airports, such as the DuPage Airport, assist in making business travel less hectic.

For complete details about the DuPage Airport, visit www.dupageairport.com.