



Hartsfield Airport Unveils New East Terminal Design

ATLANTA (July 31, 2003) – Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport recently unveiled the conceptual designs for the new East International Terminal (EIT), which will include a glass wall offering a spectacular view of the Atlanta skyline.

The new terminal, scheduled to open in 2006, is part of Hartsfield's expansion plan that includes a fifth runway. Creating a new Concourse F, the terminal will connect to the existing 28-gate international concourse for a total of 38 international gates. It will also include new concessions, duty free areas, ticketing and baggage handling, which will eliminate the rechecking process for arriving Atlanta passengers.

Thirty architects, led by the architectural firm Leo A Daly, are working on the design for the east terminal that will feature artwork incorporated into the walls, such as built-in sculptures or murals, as well as materials and colors of Georgia, such as local granite on the floors and a red sandstone wall that will evoke the state's red clay.

Hartsfield has experienced increases in international passenger traffic by more than 80 percent since the 1996 Summer Olympic Games. "Even prior to the Summer Olympics, we experienced substantial growth in the number of international passengers," said Ben DeCosta, aviation general manager of Hartsfield Airport. "A world-class city like Atlanta deserves a world-class international terminal, and that's what we intend to build."

"Hartsfield is the world's busiest airport with more than 76 million passengers annually, a number that is estimated to increase to more than 121 million passengers by 2015," said Spurgeon Richardson, president and CEO of the Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau. "As a gateway to the world, Hartsfield Airport is an economic engine for Atlanta and key to the city's success as an event city that hosts some the world's biggest sporting events in addition to millions of visitors and thousands of meetings and conventions each year."

Established in 1913, the ACVB is a private, nonprofit organization created exclusively to market metro Atlanta and Georgia as the premier conventions, meetings and leisure destination in the regional, national and international marketplace and to favorably impact the Atlanta economy through conventions and tourism. For more information on Atlanta, please visit www.atlanta.net.

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