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For Immediate Release

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Hartsfield-Jackson Airport Community Participates in 12th Annual Runway Clean-Up

Department of Aviation and airline employees volunteer to pick-up debris

ATLANTA – Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport held its 12th Annual Foreign Object Debris (FOD) Walk on Wednesday morning. More than 200 members of the Hartsfield-Jackson community— employees from the Department of Aviation, Delta and Southwest/AirTran— volunteered their time to find and remove debris that could be hazardous to plane traffic.

“The annual FOD Walk is a wonderful event for our airport community,” said Hartsfield-Jackson general manager Louis Miller. “Every year, we walk with our airport partners to clean the runway and raise awareness of how debris can damage aircrafts. As the world’s busiest airport, this annual tradition gives our dedicated employees an opportunity to show their pride for our first-class facility.”

While Hartsfield-Jackson performs daily FOD inspections to ensure that the runways are clear of debris, the annual FOD Walk is designed to remind the public about how foreign objects—such as rocks, luggage straps and plastics—can negatively impact airport operations. Airport officials closed Runway 10/28, also known as the Fifth Runway and the south cargo ramp at 7:00 a.m. this morning for about 45 for the FOD Walk.

Workers who volunteered for the event met at the North Cargo Building at 6 a.m. and boarded shuttle buses that took half of them to opposite ends of the runway. The two groups then walked half the length of the runway while collecting debris, until meeting in the middle for photos. The group also performed the same exercise at the south cargo ramp.

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Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

Hartsfield-Jackson is the world's busiest airport, serving more than 95 million passengers annually with nonstop service to 160 U.S. destinations and nearly 70 international destinations in more than 45 countries. The Airport is a frequent recipient of awards of excellence for concessions, operations, architectural engineering and construction – including the 2013 Global Efficiency Excellence Award from the Air Transport Research Society (for more information, go to www.atrsworld.org), 2013 Project of the Year, Architectural Category for the Maynard H. Jackson Jr. International Terminal from the American Association of Airport Executives Southeast chapter (for more information, go to www.secaaae.org) and the 2012 Best Airport in North America, Business Travel Award from the Business Traveler Magazine (for more information, go to www.businesstravelerusa.com). ATL is undergoing more than \$6 billion worth of capital improvements, which include a new, energy-efficient rental car center, a gold LEED certified international terminal which opened to the general public on May 16, 2012 (for more information, go to www.atlanta-airport.com/internationalterminal/) and aesthetic and functional upgrades to its concourses, people movers and parking services. For more information, go to www.atlanta-airport.com. Check out the Airport's YouTube channel by visiting <http://www.youtube.com/AtlantaHartsfield>, follow us on Twitter (@Atlanta_Airport) and become a fan on Facebook (Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport).