



September 15, 2014

Hartsfield-Jackson to Close Runway for Replacement for 29 Days

ATLANTA – Beginning at 11 p.m. tonight, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport will close the northernmost of its five runways until Wednesday, Oct. 15, in order to replace the 9,000-foot-long stretch of pavement. September and October are typically the slowest months for air travel and the runway closure is not expected to significantly affect flight traffic.

“The existing pavement has reached the end of its useful life span,” explains Hartsfield-Jackson General Manager Miguel Southwell. “We are continuously updating and upgrading the Airport’s facilities in order to provide the best possible service to our customers.”

The 29-day project calls for a full section replacement of the 35 year-old 8L/26R runway. A 100-foot-wide strip down the center of the 150-foot-wide runway will be torn up and completely replaced. The section to be removed consists of a 16-inch-deep slab of concrete on top of a bed of cement treated base and soil cement; that will be replaced by a 20-inch-deep section of concrete on top of two inches of asphalt. The outer edges of the runway have seen relatively little use and will be left intact.

The runway replacement is part of a \$38 million capital improvement project that also includes the repaving of additional runway exits and taxiway access points, as well as a runway blast pad, all on the Airport’s northern side.

The new pavement will be accompanied by new, state-of-the-art LED runway lights. The old runway materials will be ground up and recycled as filler for other construction projects. Air passengers should not notice any change in Hartsfield-Jackson’s flight schedules due to the runway work.

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Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

Hartsfield-Jackson (ATL) is the world’s busiest and most efficient airport, serving more than 94.4 million passengers annually with nonstop service to more than 150 U.S. destinations and nearly 70 international destinations in more than 45 countries. ATL boasts a direct economic impact of \$32.5 billion in metro Atlanta and \$68.3 billion in Georgia. The Airport is the largest employer in Georgia, with more than 58,000 employees. 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, 2013 Project of the Year, Architectural Category for the Maynard H. Jackson Jr. International Terminal from the American Association of Airport Executives Southeast chapter and the 2012 Best Airport in North America, Business Travel Award from the Business Traveler Magazine. ATL has completed more than \$6 billion worth of capital improvements, including a new, energy-efficient rental car center, a gold LEED-certified international terminal 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 www.youtube.com/AtlantaHartsfield, follow us on Twitter (@Atlanta_Airport) and become a fan on Facebook (Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport).