



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Hartsfield-Jackson Becomes First U.S. Airport to Join Industry Security Program**  
*Smart Security project expected to enhance security, increase efficiency*

**MONTREAL** – Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL) officials today signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Airports Council International (ACI) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) designating ATL as the first airport in the United States to participate in the Smart Security project. The memorandum was signed at the ACI North America/World Annual General Assembly Conference and Exhibition in Montreal.

The Smart Security project is a joint program between ACI and IATA, on behalf of their respective members and in collaboration with governments and industry stakeholders, that aims to define new concepts in passenger security screening at airports. The program’s goal is to strengthen aviation security while increasing operational efficiency and improving the passenger experience. Signatories expect the Atlanta scope of the project to improve the checkpoint environment, including queuing and repacking areas; to implement passenger tracking and queue management; and to test innovative security lane configuration, including automation and design.

The participants’ intention is to share information and expertise on innovations in passenger and cabin baggage screening and to conduct practical operational testing and evaluation of Smart Security components at ATL. Trials will be conducted in collaboration with the Transportation Security Administration.

“We are honored to become the first airport in the United States to participate in the Smart Security project,” said Roosevelt Council Jr., interim general manager at ATL. “Participating in the program will allow us to obtain vital data that will further increase operational efficiency here in Atlanta and will provide guidance and direction for other airports across the country.”

“The 2015 ACI World Airport Traffic Report ranks ATL as the world’s busiest airport in terms of passenger traffic,” said Angela Gittens, director general of ACI World. “As such, the results and lessons learned from ATL’s Smart Security pilot will make an invaluable contribution to the project and the

*Smart Security Guidance Material*, which will ultimately benefit all airports in the deployment of Smart Security concepts.”

“Smart Security solutions have been successfully implemented in airports across Europe with significant benefits to all stakeholders. And ongoing trials in Australia, the Middle East and Canada are looking positive,” said Nick Careen, senior vice president for Airports, Passenger, Cargo and Security at IATA. “We are excited to see ATL assuming a leadership role in bringing these concepts to the United States. This partnership is an important step toward realizing a new global model of airport security that will improve the experience for passengers while boosting the efficiency of security checkpoints.”

### **Notes to editors**

1. Airports Council International, the trade association of the world’s airports, was founded in 1991 with the objective of fostering cooperation among its member airports and other partners in world aviation, including the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Air Transport Association and the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation. In representing the best interests of airports during key phases of policy development, ACI makes a significant contribution toward ensuring a global air transport system that is safe, secure, efficient and environmentally sustainable. To learn more about ACI, click [here](#).
2. IATA is the trade association for the world’s airlines, representing some 260 airlines, or 83 percent of total air traffic. The association supports many areas of aviation activity and helps formulate industry policy on critical aviation issues. For more information on IATA, click [here](#).
3. For further information on the program or to get involved, please contact the Smart Security team at [smartsecurity@aci.aero](mailto:smartsecurity@aci.aero) or [smartsecurity@iata.org](mailto:smartsecurity@iata.org).
4. To learn more about the ACI-NA/World Annual General Assembly, Conference and Exhibition, click [here](#).

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### **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport**

Hartsfield-Jackson (ATL) is the world’s most traveled and most efficient airport, serving more than 101 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 \$34.8 billion in metro Atlanta and a total direct economic impact of \$70.9 billion in Georgia. The Airport is the largest employer in Georgia, with more than 63,000 employees. The Airport is a frequent recipient of awards of excellence for concessions, operations, sustainability, architectural engineering, and construction. ATL is now in the midst of a \$6 billion capital improvement plan, ATL Next, that will modernize the domestic terminal and concourses, create new parking decks, construct a 300-room hotel, Class A commercial office space, add a new runway, new concourse and expand cargo facilities. For more information, go to [www.atlanta-airport.com](http://www.atlanta-airport.com).

### **NOTE TO NEWS EDITORS**

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