



April 10, 2015

Hartsfield-Jackson to Hold Full-Scale Emergency Disaster Drill

Firefighters, law enforcement, rescue personnel and nearly 100 volunteers set to participate in the triennial 'Big Bird' exercise

WHO:

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Atlanta Police Department, Atlanta Fire and Rescue Department.

WHAT:

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is preparing for its Big Bird emergency drill. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires airports to conduct annual emergency preparedness drills and at least one full-scale drill every three years. The Airport has dubbed this drill Big Bird. The event will replicate a full-scale airplane disaster response in which airport personnel will ignite an aircraft, extinguish the fire, and treat and triage nearly 100 "victims" portrayed by volunteers.

Airport officials will host a media briefing and walkthrough day on Monday, April, 13.

WHEN:

Monday, April 13, 2015 at 1 p.m. (media briefing / walkthrough)

Wednesday, April 15 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. (event day)

WHERE:

AFRD Training Facility (Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport), 860 Lake Mirror Road, Atlanta, GA 30349

Notes:

Press members attending the 'Big Bird' event are strongly encouraged to participate in the media briefing and walkthrough.

Media attending either event must RSVP to DeAllous Smith at deallous.smith@atlanta-airport.com by 10 a.m., Monday, April 13 (briefing/ walkthrough) and 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 14 (emergency drill).

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Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

Hartsfield-Jackson (ATL) is the world's busiest and most efficient airport, serving more than 96.1 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, 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).

NOTE TO NEWS EDITORS

For HD broadcast quality b-roll of airport operations, events and generic interior/exterior shots, click here to view our ATL Video Newsroom: vimeo.com/atlairport/channels,