

July 13, 2015

## Hartsfield-Jackson bond ratings upgraded and affirmed to A+

Improved status reflects "leading position as the world's busiest airport"

**ATLANTA** – Hartsfield-Jackson officials announced today that Fitch Ratings upgraded the airport's outstanding \$857 million passenger facility charge (PFC) and subordinate lien revenue bonds from "A" to "A+".

"Our financial management efforts must parallel the work we do to maintain our status as the busiest and most efficient airport in the world," said Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed. "Through prudent fiscal planning and implementation, we've kept our finances in order. These ratings reflect those efforts."

Fitch also affirmed, for the eighth year in a row, Hartsfield-Jackson's "A+" rating on approximately \$1.78 billion of senior lien airport general revenue bonds.

Aviation General Manager Miguel Southwell welcomed the news. "Upgrading and affirming our 'A+' status confirms the financial stability of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport," he said. "These ratings tell the markets that we are well-prepared for future investment."

In their decision, Fitch analysts cited ATL's leading position as the world's busiest passenger airport, and its sizable Origin & Destination base which supports a strong local Metropolitan Statistical Area. From the release: "Passenger traffic trends have been largely positive since 2002, and there is limited competition from other regional airports." Fitch analysts also wrote that Hartsfield-Jackson is "...successfully allowing for implementation of its capital program to meet current and future infrastructure needs."

For the complete release visit Fitch's website: www.fitchratings.com.

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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 <a href="www.atlanta-airport.com">www.atlanta-airport.com</a>. Check out the Airport's YouTube channel by visiting <a href="www.youtube.com/AtlantaHartsfield">www.youtube.com/AtlantaHartsfield</a>, follow us on Twitter (@Atlanta\_Airport) and become a fan on Facebook (Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport).

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