



**For Immediate Release**  
**April 20, 2018**

### **Hartsfield-Jackson Hosts 2018 ATLNext Industry Day**

*Sessions and panel discussions offered opportunities and encourages inclusion*

**ATLANTA** – Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL) hosted its 2018 ATLNext Industry Day on April 3 at the Georgia International Convention Center. ATLNext Industry Day returned for its third year to educate and inspire hundreds of minority and women participants about business opportunities at the world's busiest and most efficient airport.

"For many years, Hartsfield-Jackson has been committed to creating opportunities for the business community to gather useful, insightful information about contracting opportunities here," Airport General Manager Roosevelt Council, Jr. said. "Recognized as the premier economic generator in our region, we are proud to be a leader in creating jobs and projects that improve our community, and ensuring that we work to remain diverse and inclusive is one of our top priorities."

"It was an honor to host this year's ATLNext Industry Day," said Airport Business Diversity Officer Valerie Nesbitt. "Our unwavering commitment to inclusive contracting allows us to remain steadfast in our quest to maximize business opportunities for minority and women-owned firms. The work that we do allows us to be a model for the rest of our county and even those throughout the world. ATL's commitment to diversity and inclusion contributes greatly to our growth and energy, allowing us to be a driving force in the aviation industry."

ATL employs more than 63,000 individuals on-site, and for the third consecutive year, ATL remains the only airport to host more than 100 million passengers in a single year. In order to secure and maintain this position, ATL has embarked on a 20-year development program designed to boost capacity, renew and replace existing facilities, and enhance ATL's aesthetic appeal. This multibillion-dollar capital improvement program will modernize the Domestic Terminal, expand cargo operations, extend two concourses, construct and refurbish several parking facilities and add a sixth runway.

"Starting my business at a young age, meant that I had to embrace programs like Hartsfield-Jackson's small business development program," said L'Tryce Slade, managing director of Slade Land Use, Environmental, and Transportation Planning, LLC. "My experience at ATLNext Industry Day led me to meeting two contractors, which resulted in me submitting proposals for projects. I did not realize how quickly I could meet contacts that would lead to future business relationships that would turn into immediate growth opportunities my company."

ATLNext officially kicked off in fall 2016, and since then, the Airport has made enormous progress on massive canopies rising alongside the Domestic Terminal as well as renovations to the Transportation Mall and hold rooms.

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**Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport**

Hartsfield-Jackson (ATL) is the world's busiest and most efficient airport, serving more than 103 million passengers annually with nonstop service to more than 150 U.S. destinations and 70 international destinations in more than 50 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 individuals working on-site. The Airport is a frequent recipient of awards of excellence for concessions, operations, sustainability, architectural engineering and construction. In 2016, ATL set in motion a multibillion-dollar capital improvement program, ATLNext, which will modernize the Domestic Terminal, extend two concourses, construct several parking decks, add a sixth runway, expand cargo facilities and pave the way for a 440-room InterContinental Hotel with Class A office space. For more information, visit [www.atl.com](http://www.atl.com).

**NOTE TO NEWS EDITORS**

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