



Armstrong International Airport Receives Award for Hurricane Efforts and Continues Preparations for Current and Future Hurricane Seasons

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – August 16, 2007, New Orleans – Members of the New Orleans Aviation Board were advised by Airports Council International – North America (ACI-NA) that Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport won a special recognition award in its 2007 Environmental Achievement Awards.

Award winners will be recognized at ACI-NA's 16th Annual Conference & Exhibition in Kansas City. "Airports have many innovative programs to mitigate environmental impacts of their operations," said Jessica Steinhilber, ACI-NA's Director of Environmental Affairs. "The ACI-NA Environmental Achievement Awards highlight those airports that set an example for the industry by going above and beyond regulatory compliance standards to protect and preserve the environment. The 2007 winners demonstrate outstanding elements that exemplify the mission of this award."

Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport won a special recognition award for its Runway 10-28 Rehabilitation, Levee Lift, Flood Gate, and Canal Enclosure because of the laudable impact this project had on the environment and the community. Having been in service for almost 30 years without a major rehabilitation, rehabilitating Runway 10-28 became a priority for the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport in late 2003. The project was completed successfully through use of monetary incentives for early completion, innovative and environmentally-friendly construction techniques, and inclusion of regional flood protection construction works. Completion of the rehabilitation coincided almost to the hour of Hurricane Katrina making landfall near New Orleans. With daily operations soaring from an average of 700 to as many as 3,800, completion of the rehabilitated runway proved critical to emergency operations following the Hurricane's devastating effects.

Also at the August NOAB meeting, the Board accepted the donation of a 2.82 MegaWatts generator from FEMA. The generator was used during Hurricane Katrina by the Corps of Engineers and has now been donated to Armstrong International Airport to help maintain continuous operation of the Airport, in the event of the loss of commercial power. The generator has an estimated value of nearly \$1million new.

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This generator will be relocated from its current location in Hammond to Armstrong International in the near future. The generator will be able to power all of the West Terminal, Concourse D, and the third floor administrative area. Upon further testing and streamlining, the generator may be able to accommodate all other areas of the terminal including the security screening checkpoints that will be critical in the event of a mass evacuation of the tourists from the city.



Additionally, at the July Board Meeting, the Board accepted an updated LANOIA 2007 Hurricane Preparedness Plan. The updated plan assists the Aviation Board staff to effectively coordinate preparedness and recovery planning in an effort to identify and prepare for mobilizing the necessary resources required to handle emergency conditions before, during and after a hurricane event.

“This update plan will sharpen the Airport’s emergency planning skills and help us to be more prepared as we move into this year’s hurricane season,” stated Sean C. Hunter, Director of Aviation at Armstrong International Airport.

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