



# Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

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## ***Hartsfield-Jackson Airport is a Winner Again! Air Transport Research Society Awards Hartsfield-Jackson Airport “Most Efficient Airport Award” for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row***

ATLANTA -- Innovative. Productive. Costs-Effective. Efficient. These are just some of the terms used to describe **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport**. The **Air Transport Research Society** would heartily agree since they are awarding **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport** “*The Global Excellence Award*” for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport** is the only airport to receive this prestigious award twice from **The Air Transport Research Society (ATRS)**, a special interest group that focuses on the policies, management, and operations related to the airline industry and international aviation.

**Deputy General Manager**, Mario Diaz, who accepted the award, said that the airport’s leaders and employees are the reason for this wonderful accomplishment. “*We have become the world’s busiest passenger airport, and we are being recognized for our “world-class” productivity and efficiency. We have reached these recent milestones because of visionary leadership and committed employees of Atlanta’s Department of Aviation*”. Mr. Diaz accepted the award at the **ATRS 2004 Conference** held in Istanbul, Turkey last week and was also one of the featured speakers addressing the theme, “*Evolving Future Roles of the Airports in Airport Industry, National, and Continental Economics.*”

**Deputy General Manager**, *Mario Diaz*, went on to say that international travel activity has increased since the opening of the international concourse in the fall of 1994. In fact, the airport has seen more than an **80%** increase in international passenger traffic since the 1996 Summer Olympic Games. “*This year, we are forecasting a 17.9% increase in international passenger activity which is above 2003 rates. We are projecting serving 85 million passengers this year and 87.9 million passengers in 2005,*” said Diaz.

This tremendous increase shows that **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport**, the world’s busiest passenger airport, has shattered its own record in number of passengers and has already exceeded pre-911 passenger levels of 80 million passengers. **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport** is busier than ever!

Despite unimaginable challenges over the last 3 years such as the terrorist events of September 11<sup>th</sup> and dismal economic conditions, **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport** still continues to be the economic crown jewel of the Southeast. Mr. Diaz stated, “*The airport contributes business revenue of more than \$18 billion a year to the local economy, adds half a billion dollars in tax revenue to state and local municipalities, and employs a workforce of 55,000 people. Hartsfield-Jackson is Georgia’s largest employment center.*”

To continue with its goals for productivity and efficiency, **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport** plans to eliminate the hassle that the federalization of passenger and baggage security screening has caused by implementing the **TSA Baggage Screening Project**. **General Manager, Ben DeCosta** says, “*We expect the hold baggage screening project that we are about to undertake with the **Transportation Security Administration (TSA)** to result in a terminal lobby design that is much more efficient and user friendly than our current operations.*”

For up-to-date information and maps on the planned construction, please visit [www.atlanta-airport.com](http://www.atlanta-airport.com) and double click the **Things to Know As We Grow** icon.

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