



YEAR-IN-REVIEW:

Highlights from new airport's first year

INDIANAPOLIS — Since it opened for operation one year ago this week, things at Indianapolis International Airport (IND) haven't slowed down!

Here is a recap of major airport news and significant accomplishments between Nov. 11, 2008 and Nov. 11, 2009.

- Despite the global recession and decrease in air travel that coincided the airport opening, IND has performed better than many Midwestern airports in retaining airline capacity and passengers.
- Airline rates and charges were held at a fixed level despite the economic downturn. Keeping airline costs low helps IND ensure low fares. Of the top 100 U.S. airports, only 21 have lower fares than Indianapolis (which averages \$276).
- The airport's Ground Transportation customer service team helped more than 2,600 customers find their (lost) vehicles and provided 1,700 complimentary jump starts and more than 200 complimentary flat tire inflations.
- Researchers from Purdue estimate moving from the old to new airports saves airlines over 500,000 gallons in fuel annually because of reduced taxi time. In turn, less taxi time means less emissions—45,505 kgs less in carbon monoxide, 5,102 kgs fewer hydrocarbons, and 6,753 kgs less nitrogen oxide is released into the atmosphere.
- Frontier resumes service to Cancun beginning December 19. AirTran added new nonstops to Baltimore/Washington International and Milwaukee in October. Delta began new daily service to Salt Lake in June. Southwest celebrated 20 years of service in Indianapolis and added an additional daily flight to Las Vegas, Tampa, and Chicago.
- Sales at the new airport are more than \$11 per enplanement, up from about \$8 per enplaned passenger at the former airport. Preliminary estimates put IND among the top five airports nationally for concession sales per enplaned passenger.
- This week, IAA is hosting the **2009 Airports Council International–North America (ACI–NA) Concessions Conference at The Westin**. About 250 airport and retail industry experts are expected to attend.

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- IAA created and hosted the Midwest Healthcare Supply Chain Conference, which drew 150 industry leaders in May. It also drew attention to IND's growing niche for handling highly regulated pharmaceutical and biopharma products, many of which are time- and temperature-sensitive.
- IAA's board of directors approved a long-term agreement with Hendricks County for a 210-acre nature park. Staff oversaw volunteers who planted more than 4,000 trees, shrubs, and native vegetation as part of IAA's project to build a new wetland to replace one that was lost during the Midfield Project.
- IAA is near completion of its LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) application for Indianapolis International Airport. Once the application is submitted to the U.S. Green Building Council, an application review process will begin. LEED is a third-party certification program and nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings.
- The Indianapolis Airport Authority (IAA) will end the year with approximately \$53 million in its operating account, an almost \$4 million increase from the end of 2008, despite a significant downturn in the economy. It is operating from a strong, cash-positive position. IAA also took action to reduce the overall costs of its existing debt load and defer nonessential components of its capital program.
- The public art collection on display in IND's Col. H. Weir Cook Terminal Building is under consideration for a 2009 "Monumental Affair" award from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc. The awards are given for excellence in design, development, construction, engineering, public art, and innovative reuse.
- Hawker Beechcraft completed its \$14 million expansion of its executive terminal and maintenance center; Comlux announced a \$46 million expansion near High School Road that has the potential to create more than 400 jobs over the next five years.
- The new airport's Fire Station Number 1 was dedicated January 18. IND was designated a Storm Ready facility by the National Weather Service in February. And in March, a new IND Web site was launched.
- Amenities including free Wi-Fi for all visitors and free park-and-wait in the Cell Phone Lot made their debut.
- No property tax dollars are used to operate or manage IND. The Indianapolis Airport Authority has 550 full- and part-time employees.

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