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September - October 2007



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International Airport Conference Hosted in KC

Kansas City served as the host airport and city for the Airports Council International-North America's 16th Annual Conference and Exhibition, September 29 through October 3. The conference was a multi-year project, beginning in 2002 when the Kansas City Aviation Department worked closely with the Kansas City Convention and Visitors Association on the successful bid for the conference. In order for a city to host this prestigious conference, the city must have adequate hotel and convention space, ample leisure activities, and sufficient financial and staff resources to undertake this major responsibility. The Kansas City Convention & Visitors Association estimates the economic impact of the conference at approximately \$4.2 million.



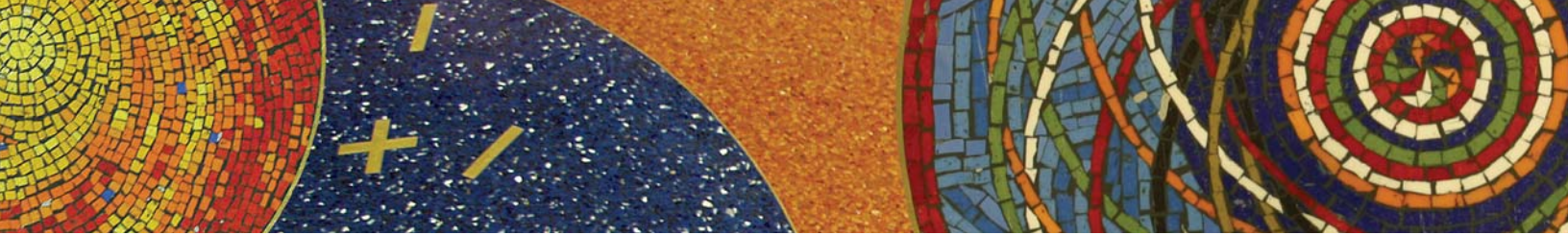
Photo courtesy of ACI-NA

By the time 2007 rolled around, Kansas City's barbeque, jazz and nightlife attracted more than 2,000 delegates from over 150 airports throughout the U.S. and Canada. The conference came at a time when Kansas City International Airport has experienced major growth, adding 16 new routes from six airlines in the past year. Additionally, the year has introduced a state-of-the-art consolidated rental car facility and innovative efforts for airport property and land development.

The conference's educational sessions included presentations on critical issues that impact the aviation industry. Topics explored included the future of aviation systems, media and public perceptions of airports, maintaining excellent customer service, the latest in airport design and master planning, security news from the government and more. The Honorable Mary Peters, U.S. Department of Transportation secretary, was the keynote speaker. Peters stated that our aviation system today is in crisis. "We need fundamental reform, not a series of short-term extensions or even a reauthorization that continues the status-quo policies that have produced record delays and customer dissatisfaction," stated Peters. She emphasized the need for better coordination between airports and airlines related to runway delays and asked airport operators to encourage government leadership to make air travel a reliable and pleasant experience again.

Throughout the week, delegates were invited to prolong their stay and enjoy the atmosphere of Kansas City. Some chose to cheer the KC Royals against the Cleveland Indians or feel the thrill of the NASCAR Nextel 400 at Kansas Speedway. Others took a journey back in time to the Renaissance Festival or strolled Kansas City's unique shopping and art districts. On the last night of the conference, conference attendees enjoyed a "block party" in the historical 18th and Vine Jazz District.

"I have received nothing but positive comments from ACI-NA staff and fellow airport directors, with most saying that our employee volunteers made the difference," said Director of Aviation Mark VanLoh. "Further, the local media gave ACI-NA and the Aviation Department the opportunity to communicate current airport issues to Kansas Citians. While a great deal of department and ACI-NA staff time and effort went into planning the conference, it was our pleasure to show off Kansas City to our 2,000 of our airport colleagues."



KCI Air Cargo Undergoes Major Renovations



Air cargo facilities at Kansas City International Airport are undergoing major renovations by two key tenants.

BAX GLOBAL recently underwent significant improvements to its building at KCI Airport. The freight airline has added new elements to the warehouse, easing the transition from ground to air transport. The inside of the warehouse received a facelift along with some updated technology. Pit levelers, which lower or raise the floor to the height of the trucks, will now make it easier to move cargo during the morning and night rush every day at BAX GLOBAL. The new system allows for fewer people handling the freight. A weigh scale was also updated. BAX GLOBAL operates as a mini-hub to the supporting geographic region around Kansas City. Those areas forward their freight here to consolidate. With the new systems in place, KCI can move more freight and increase the amount of traffic being consolidated from nearby areas.

Haith & Company, Inc. has expanded its KCI Intermodal Facility, which will provide additional space for its own tenant, Forward Air, Inc. The building built four years ago no longer accommodates the growth of 20 percent each year Forward Air experienced after it relocated its hub operation to “on-airport” property. Forward Air, Inc. is a leading provider of time-definite surface transportation and related logistics services for the deferred air freight market, including freight forwarders and air cargo operators. Construction began last August and will have 20,000 square-feet added on to the existing 30,000 square-foot building. There will be 70 cross docks to allow freight to enter the facility through one door and exit through another, speeding time to its final destination and minimizing handling. Construction is predicted to be completed at the end of October.



Downtown Airport Receives Praise, Additional Equipment

Plans at the Charles B. Wheeler Downtown Airport have attracted praise from U.S. Congressman Sam Graves. As a result, the airport’s federal Airport Improvement Program (AIP) supplied it with a \$4.2 million dollar grant that will be used for runway rehabilitation. The necessary repairs will extend the life of the taxiways.

“This grant will allow our downtown airport to continue its mission of catering to corporate, charter and recreational flyers,” said Graves, a member of the aviation subcommittee in Congress. “It is an asset for all of Kansas City, and I’m pleased we were able to make this money available.” The AIP was designed to help airports continue necessary infrastructure improvements. These improvements will facilitate the reconfiguration of the pavement markings to accommodate new runway safety area requirements.



A new Air Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) truck reported for duty at Charles B. Wheeler Downtown Airport (MKC). The previous ARFF truck became outdated and parts were no longer readily available. The “new” truck is a rebuilt P-19 ARFF truck used by the Marine Corps. It will be retrofitted for the specialized needs of Downtown Airport and will have a 1,000 gallon tank.

Fire fighting services at MKC are provided by ARFF-trained fire fighters at a nearby Kansas City Fire Department “structural” station. This is because there is no scheduled commercial air service at the airport, which requires a specialized 24/7 ARFF station. This arrangement demands that the truck be durable and easy to use and always at the ready.



Two Tenants Move Into Ambassador Building

The Kansas City Aviation Department's Ambassador Building is under construction in preparation for two major tenants. Wire Rope Corporation of America, Inc. (WRCA), the largest manufacturer of wire rope in the Western Hemisphere, will relocate their headquarters from St. Joseph, Mo., to Kansas City. Their new offices will be ready at the end of this year. U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) will also move in by the end of the year. GSA leases space on behalf of the government.



WRCA, which operates seven manufacturing facilities in the United States and Mexico, produces rope for cables in cranes used for constructions, as well as in the oil and gas industries. Kansas City's Bartle Hall, the largest column-free exposition facility in the United States, is supported by structural strand assemblies manufactured by WRCA.

GSA provides training on acquisitions for buildings, property disposal, supply and procurement, technology, transportation and vehicles. It sponsors events for small businesses seeking government contracting and offers training sessions for personal property requests, federal travel regulations and purchasing a GSA products disaster recovery program.

WRCA will occupy 40,000 square feet, while GSA will use 10,000 square feet. When the Ambassador Building was purchased by KCAD in September 2006, it was at a five percent occupancy rate. Since the acquisition last year, KCAD has built up the building's occupancy to over 50 percent.

"The Ambassador Building at KCI" sits on a 23- acre campus and includes class A office space. Some of its many amenities include a conference facility that accommodates up to 300 people, a large cafeteria with expansive kitchen facilities, a state-of-the-art security system and convenient access to Interstates 29 and 435.

KCI Air Service Sees Continued Growth

Air service continues to grow at Kansas City International Airport with 903,252 passengers arriving and departing through its gates in September, an increase of 7.3 percent from September 2006. In fact, year-to-date boardings totaled 4,385,335, an increase of 8.6 percent from the same period last year. In September, there were 274 daily departures and the airport now offers nonstop service to 67 cities.

Recently, Northwest Airlines added to this influx with a seventh daily flight to Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport beginning in November. A new airline has been added to the schedules as well. Great Lakes Airline now serves several Kansas cities: Great Bend, Garden City, Dodge City and Hays. The airline also flies nonstop to Burlington, IA, a new destination for KCI Airport. Midwest Airlines began nonstop service to Austin, TX in September.

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Airport Vendor Wins Award

The Paradies Shops recently earned praise at the annual Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC)/FAA Airport Business Diversity Conference in Las Vegas. They were awarded the AMAC Corporate Partner Award for the second time.

A family-owned business since 1960, it has also been named Best Airport Retailer for the past consecutive 12 years by *Airport Revenue News*. At Kansas City International Airport, The Paradies Shops own and operate, with minority business partner Elliott Threat, CNBC, Kansas City Market Place, Plaza News & Books and PGA TOUR shops.

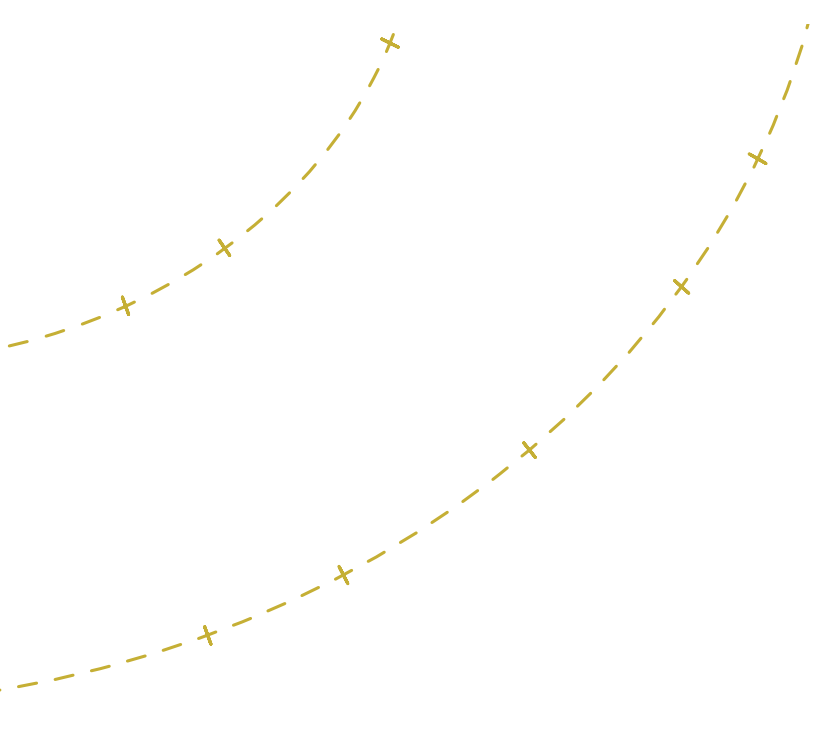
CNBC News offers a broad range of popular newsstand items plus books and snacks. It also features two exclusive Paradies programs, "H2O & A Paper To Go" and "Read & Return". The latter allows all travelers to purchase a book, read it and then return it within six months at other CNBC airport stores around the country. In turn, the buyer receives 50% of their money back. Plaza News and Books also honors the Read & Return Program in KCI's Terminal B. Kansas City Market Place was developed just for Kansas City's culture. The shop features the area's famous barbeque sauces, regional joke t-shirts and locally made jewelry and accessories. PGA TOUR Shops have an exclusive agreement with the PGA TOUR, appealing not only to golf enthusiasts, but also to the traveler with a casual lifestyle in mind. These shops offer a "Best Price Guarantee".

Aviation Department Arrivals

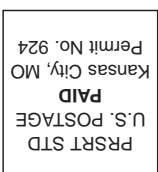
The Kansas City Aviation Department salutes several new, transferred and promoted employees...

- Tina Amrine - Airport Police Officer, Airport Police
- Rita Bradley - Administrative Assistant, Airport Police
- Gary Brown - Maintenance Mechanic, Field Maintenance
- Andrea Capps - Maintenance Mechanic, Field Maintenance
- Joe Diaz II - Maintenance Mechanic, Field Maintenance
- Woody Gillespie - Maintenance Worker, Parking and Bus Service
- James Hurst - Maintenance Mechanic, Field Maintenance
- Darryl Johnson - Airport Police Officer, Airport Police
- LaRi Liberty - Administrative Assistant, Finance and Accounting
- Stephon McCann - Bus Operator, Parking and Bus Service
- Kevin Miles - Maintenance Mechanic, Field Maintenance
- Wanda Reckman - Building Maintenance Worker, Facilities - Custodial
- Laura Richardson - Administrative Assistant, Fleet Maintenance
- Eugene Sage - Maintenance Mechanic, Field Maintenance
- William Simpson - Airport Police Lieutenant, Airport Police
- Cherrice Tatum - Administrative Assistant, Facilities - Custodial
- Kenneth Williams - Maintenance Mechanic, Field Maintenance
- Christopher Zewe - Maintenance Mechanic, Field Maintenance

The "FlyKCI.com" newsletter is the official publication of the Kansas City Aviation Department and includes developments at both Kansas City International Airport and at Charles B. Wheeler Downtown Airport. Editorial comments may be directed to kathleen_hefner@kcmo.org.



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