

## **Tampa International Airport Earns FAA Safety Recognition**

**Tampa, Fla. (August 31, 2001)** --Tampa International Airport has obtained a perfect (zero discrepancies) Airport Certification Safety Inspection as determined by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). In fact, this is the fifth year in a row that Tampa International Airport has completed its annual inspection without noting a single discrepancy.

Hillsborough County Aviation Authority Executive Director Louis E. Miller stated, "We are extremely pleased with our staff, especially the Operations, Maintenance, and Fire Division for their ability and professionalism in maintaining this outstanding state of safety. Although specific departments have been acknowledged, we all recognize that it takes every one of us to achieve these accomplishments. The combined effort of all our employees is what makes Tampa International Airport the success that it is."

In order for the Tampa International Airport, as well as other airports, to operate as an air carrier airport, the airport must have in its possession an Airport Operating Certificate issued by the FAA. Part of the certification process involves the FAA making an annual detailed safety inspection of the airport. The FAA safety inspection includes:

- The operational status of the fire fighting vehicles
- A test of response times of fire-fighting vehicles
- An inspection of construction areas
- A review of the airport's training and safety procedures
- Inspection of the airport's runways/taxiways, markings and approach surfaces
- Review of the fuel safety program
- Review of the wildlife program
- Review of the airport's airfield self-inspection program
- Review of the procedures for controlling ground vehicles that operate on the airfield

Tampa International Airport offers 285 daily nonstop scheduled departures to 53 domestic destinations and 44 weekly nonstop scheduled departures to eight international markets. For total passenger traffic, Tampa International is ranked the 29th busiest out of 149 airports in the nation.

For the last twelve months ending July 31, 2001, passengers using Tampa International Airport totaled 16,478,511 with a projected forecast of 25 million passengers by 2020.

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