

## **"America's Favorite Airport"**

**Tampa, Fla. (May 2002)** - - Tampa International Airport (TPA) offers 270 daily nonstop scheduled departures to 58 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.

Tampa International Airport's passenger traffic was down by 0.97 percent during the last twelve months ending December 2001, with 15,888,436 passengers using the airport's facilities. For the month of March 2002, TPA total passenger traffic was down 4.61 percent compared to March 2001. Nationally, passenger traffic was down 10 percent during the same time period.

For the second year, The OAG (Official Airline Guide) Worldwide recognized Tampa International Airport as one of the Top Five airports in the world at its OAG Airline of the Year Awards. It recognizes and rewards airlines and airports that have attained, and maintain, the highest standards within the aviation industry. The OAG is a global awards program voted for by frequent business travelers.

Tampa International Airport has ranked the highest in overall passenger satisfaction for the second year by J. D. Power and Associates. The Airport finished highest in overall passenger satisfaction in the mid-airport category (15 to 30 million passengers per year), by the J.D. Power and Associates 2001 Syndicated North American Airport Passenger Satisfaction Study. TPA received high marks for: gate areas, ease of travel to and from the airport, check-in and security procedures, baggage claim areas and the rental car facilities. The survey covered all aspects of the airport experience including getting to and leaving the Airport. The study, which included 42 major North American airports, was conducted this summer. More than 12,000 travelers answered questions about a variety of areas pertaining to both departure and arrival process at their "home" airport as well as two other airports that they frequently use.

Tampa International Airport has received the federal "Feather in the Cap" award for 2001 for five years of faultless safety inspections.

The award is given by the Federal Aviation Administration to commercial airports with no problems in five consecutive years of FAA safety inspections. FAA inspectors look at things such as runway and taxiway surfaces, fire and rescue training and aircraft fueling procedures.

The Tampa Bay Magazine voted Tampa International Airport the Best Asset of Tampa Bay for the year 2001. Tampa Bay Magazine surveys its subscribers on an annual basis for the "Best of Tampa Bay". May/June 2001. Tampa International Airport has been recognized by Conde Nast Traveler as being one

of the top-ten best airports in the world. Results from Conde Nast Traveler's 1999 Readers' Choice Awards voted Tampa International Airport as the world's seventh favorite airport. For the twelfth year, the magazine tabulated surveys from over 25,000 readers - making it the largest private poll of consumer attitudes in the U.S.

The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (HCAA) has been preparing and planning for the future development of Tampa International Airport. The 1999 Master Plan Update focused on expanding the existing Airport Terminal Complex to accommodate 25 million passengers through the year 2020, while still maintaining the highest level of service for Airport users.

According to Louis E. Miller, Executive Director, HCAA, "We have anticipated that the total cost of the next twenty-year Airport development program will cost approximately \$1.03 billion. During the first five-year phase of development, we'll spend \$560 million to construct facilities to meet the demands of our growing Tampa Bay community."

The Airport directly and indirectly supports nearly 18,000 jobs in the community and pumps more than \$1 billion annually into the economy.

###