

"Airport Expands its Good Neighbor Policy"

Tampa, FL (November 2003) - - In its effort to be a quieter neighbor, the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority recently completed construction of a new \$2.5 million Ground Run-Up Enclosure. The three-sided open-roofed structure occupies 1.5 acres on the east side of the Airport's airfield. The walls stand approximately 43 feet high and contain multiple acoustical wall panels. It is large enough to accommodate aircraft the size of Boeing 747s and 757s. The entire project cost \$5,927,676.00 which includes design and construction of additional apron and taxiway areas.

"Noise abatement has become more critical as development encroaches along the boundaries of the airport property," explained Nadine Jones, Director, Airport Planning and Noise Compatibility Program. "To address these compatibility concerns, the Aviation Authority commissioned the Ground Run-Up Enclosure."

The facility nicknamed the "hush house" is used to buffer the loud sound from jet engines which are fired up after routine maintenance. It is reported that because of the state of the art engineering and design of run-up enclosures, there is a standard noise reduction of 15 to 18 dBA.

The Run-Up Enclosure designer was Bridge Net International and Run-Up Enclosure contractor was Blast Deflector, Inc. The project was completed on time and under budget.

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