

“America’s Favorite Airport”

TAMPA, Fla. (April 20, 2004) – Tampa International Airport (TPA) offers an average of 265 daily nonstop scheduled departures to 50 domestic destinations and 44 weekly nonstop scheduled departures to seven international markets. For total passenger traffic, Tampa International is ranked the 30th busiest out of 149 airports in the nation.

Tampa International Airport recently set a record for monthly departing passengers for March 2004, with 844,996 passengers departing, nearly a 13 percent increase over March 2003. Total passenger traffic for the first quarter of 2004 is already at 4.4 million year to date, an increase of 11.19 percent over 2003.

Tampa International Airport carried 15,523,568 total passengers for 2003, a slight increase over 2002. Cargo traffic totaled 171,124,598 pounds, an increase of 2.10 percent. Total Aircraft operations at TPA decreased 4.24 percent with total traffic reported at 233,601 arrivals and departures.

Tampa International Airport continues to receive numerous official votes of confidence from global customer groups for being one of the world’s most user-friendly air travel facilities. Tampa International Airport, for the third time, receives high votes from passengers placing it among the worlds best for overall passenger satisfaction according to the J. D. Power and Associates 2003 Global

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Airport Passenger Satisfaction Study.

Tampa finished fourth highest in overall passenger satisfaction in the mid-sized category (15 to 30 million passengers per year) worldwide behind Singapore's Changi International and Hong Kong's Chek Lap Kok, placing it second highest in the U.S. -- one point behind Pittsburgh International Airport.

"Earning such a desirable reputation is due to the outstanding performance of the thousands of men and women whose dedication to the comfort, safety, convenience and well-being of our Airport customers has far exceeded routine work standards," stated Louis E. Miller, Executive Director, Hillsborough County Aviation Authority.

Condé Nast Traveler Magazine once again rated Tampa International Airport among the best in the world. Receiving the third highest point total overall in the 2003 Readers' Choice Awards behind Singapore's Changi and Amsterdam's Schipol Airports; Tampa International scored highest among all U.S. airports.

Additionally, the IATA Skytrax 2003 Airport of the Year survey voted Tampa number two in North America behind Vancouver International Airport. Business and leisure passengers were asked to vote for best ground transportation, ease of transfer, passenger facilities, staff service, terminal comfort and security efficiency.

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Tampa International Airport has received special safety recognition from the Federal Aviation Administration for zero problems in seven 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 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.

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