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NEWS RELEASE

Airport Opens New Rental Car Garage

Tampa, FL (November 2, 2006) -- Tampa International Airport is pleased to announce the opening of a new seven-level, 710 space rental car garage and the relocation of the red side rental car counters and offices from the red side baggage claim area to the adjacent service building. The facility will be operational November 15, 2006 – just in time for the busy holiday travel season.

In preparing and planning for the future, the Aviation Authority authorized a Master Plan Update for Tampa International Airport which was completed in December 2005. This \$33.5 million Airport capital improvement project is one of the action items identified in the Master Plan Update that will allow the current Airport Terminal Complex, which was built to accommodate 20 million passengers, to hold 25 million passengers.

“Customer convenience is one of our main priorities,” stated Stephen J. Mitchell, Tampa International Airport chairman. “The renovation of the service building to accommodate the rental car counters and the construction of the garage allows for direct and easy access to rental car “ready cars” which are all located in covered parking spaces.”

Moving the rental car counters from red baggage claim to the service building increases circulation space for customers in the baggage claim area while maintaining short walking distances. Rental car customers do not need to board a shuttle bus to get to their rental car.

Construction on this project, which was designed by Alfonso Architects and built by The Beck Group, began December 2005 and was completed 11 months later in November 2006.

Six on-Airport car rental companies operate in the new facility: Hertz, Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Dollar and Thrifty.

Louis E. Miller *Executive Director*



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Location, location, location. The unique shape of the garage is due to the numerous constraints the site presented. The garage was built around and through the existing shuttle car guideway connected to abandoned Airside D and adjacent to a service road and the curved red side arrivals drive.

Additionally, the garage site contains numerous live underground utilities, including water, sanitary, storm, electrical and communication lines that had to remain in service during construction. Also, the George J. Bean parkway and service building roads needed to remain open with minimum disruption. All of this while building a garage only four feet from the service building and parkway roads.

Fun Facts

- Tampa International Airport is recognized as the seventh largest rental car market in the nation.
- Each level of the garage is approximately 60,000 square feet.
- Abandoned Airside D was used as a temporary pre-cast production plant site to produce approximately 385 straight and curved concrete panels. This amounts to a total of 40,000 square feet of concrete cast on site.
- The garage required 20,000 cubic yards of poured-in-place concrete. This is enough concrete to make a sidewalk from TPA to Orlando's Citrus Bowl Stadium – about 80 miles.
- 120 miles of post-tension cables were used in the concrete slabs – enough cable to connect TPA and Fort Myers Southwest Florida International Airport.

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