



*News Release*  
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## Airports Authority Introduces “AeroTrain”-- Key Component of Dulles Airport Development

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, James E. Bennett, President and CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority announced the name of the new passenger conveyance system currently under construction at Washington Dulles International Airport and introduced a prototype of the system on display at the Airport.

The new system for getting around Dulles will be called AeroTrain.

AeroTrain is a rubber tired, automated train system that will run underground and connect the Main Terminal to the Concourses on the airfield where passengers board aircraft. A model of an AeroTrain car is now on display near the entrance to the bag claim level of the east end of the Terminal. The exhibit includes information about the train, construction methods and the overall Dulles improvement and expansion program called “D2”. The purpose of the exhibit is to introduce the future airport transport system to passengers.

Said Mr. Bennett, “We want the traveling public to know what’s going on here at Dulles International Airport. Our construction is very evident to everyone who visits Dulles but what might not be so evident is the progress we have made over the last year. We want our customers to know we appreciate their patience as we transform our Dulles facilities and totally revamp our passenger transportation system. It is very important that we continue to invest in our airport facilities to keep our region well-served by the aviation industry.”

“The tunnels, train stations and the vehicle maintenance facility are all taking shape and we are on course to open the new system in 2009.”

When completed, the Main Terminal will have four distinct levels: departures/ticketing; arrivals/bag claim; a new security mezzanine; and the Terminal train station.

The train will be the primary conveyance for passengers at Dulles when it opens. The mobile lounges will continue to be used for direct service to international arriving flights, the D Concourse, and aircraft not parked at gates.

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Mr. Bennett noted that the Airports Authority program to improve and expand Dulles Airport “is a massive public works project when taken in its totality. We are constructing a train system, building passenger facilities, building a new runway and reconstructing the entire security screening area in our Main Terminal to improve service to our customers, make the passenger experience much more efficient and to reduce the lines that crowd our ticket counter level.”

These projects are necessary as Dulles continues its growth trend. There has been progressive growth over the last fifteen years. In 1990, Dulles served just over 10 million passengers and handled 242,000 aircraft operations. In 2005, 27 million passengers used Dulles and flew on 509,000 airplanes.

The AeroTrain is the centerpiece of a multi-project construction program at Dulles. In 2005, \$464 million was invested in the Dulles Development program which employed more than 2,600 construction workers.