



For Immediate Release
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Modernized Port Columbus terminal enhances passenger experience, expands capacity

COLUMBUS – Completion of a three-year, \$80 million terminal renovation and modernization program positions Port Columbus International Airport for future passenger growth and reinforces the airport's \$3.7 billion annual economic impact to the Columbus Region.

The multi-faceted terminal modernization program incorporated a major facelift for the ticket lobby, baggage claim and Concourses A, B and C as well as extensive mechanical, technological and security upgrades. Funding sources for this progressive airport initiative, which is anticipated to be the last significant renovation to the terminal originally opened in 1958, include passenger facility charges and capital reserves. No local tax dollars were used for the renovation.

The upgraded terminal provides a contemporary, comfortable and convenient facility that delivers a positive passenger experience. Extensive terminal-wide renovations included adding local restaurants, unveiling one of the nation's fastest airport Wi-Fi systems, enhancing the natural lighting, installing terrazzo flooring and comfortable seating, and upgrading restrooms. Renewal and replacement of vital mechanical systems and components constituted another major aspect of the program.

"We're especially proud that 15 percent of the work was awarded to small and economically disadvantaged businesses," said Elaine Roberts, A.A.E., President and CEO of the Columbus Regional Airport Authority. "We recognize the importance of providing opportunity to businesses of all sizes. While under no federal requirement, this program provided a tremendous opportunity to partner with a wide variety of highly-skilled companies."

The modernization program also allowed the opportunity to incorporate more art displays and visual elements into the terminal.

"Travelers are enjoying two lounges with museum-quality displays that trace the airport's rich history, a 2,480 square-foot mosaic with cultural scenes from Columbus, and an exhibit highlighting notable Ohio aviators," explained Roberts.

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The addition of four new local concessions – Donatos Pizza, Bob Evans Express, Eddie George’s Grille 27 and the Short North Marketplace – introduces travelers to the Columbus experience. Meanwhile, new restrooms and expanded checkpoints provide additional capacity needed to accommodate future passenger growth.

In 2015 Port Columbus experienced nearly seven percent growth in passenger traffic, serving 6.8 million passengers. Growth is expected to continue with the first quarter of 2016 tracking up about 6 percent. The airport offers over 150 daily departures to 33 destinations.

Modernization photos

Images of the modernized terminal, along with construction photos, can be [downloaded here](#).

Additional contacts

The following people are available for interviews to discuss their company’s work on the Port Columbus terminal modernization program.

Kyle Rooney

Vice President & Regional Manager, Turner Construction

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Company role: Prime contractor for ticket lobby construction

Mark Combs

President, Combs Interior Specialties Inc.

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Company role: Small business, completed interior work (drywall, ceiling, etc.)

Construction fun facts

The following were installed as part of the \$80 million terminal modernization:

- More than six acres of new ceiling tiles (about 275,000 square feet of ceiling tiles)
- Almost three acres of new carpet (over 130,000 square feet of carpet)
- Enough drywall to cover 50 basketball courts (about 7,500 sheets of drywall)
- Nearly three football fields of terrazzo flooring (over 150,000 square feet)
- 2,000 light fixtures

About Port Columbus

Centrally located in Ohio, [Port Columbus International Airport](#) is one of three airports operated by the [Columbus Regional Airport Authority](#). Opened in 1929, Port Columbus offers over 150 daily departures to 33 destinations from Columbus, the fifteenth largest U.S. city.

Rickenbacker International and Bolton Field airports, which primarily serve air cargo and general aviation industries, respectively, also fall within the operating jurisdiction of the independent airport authority. For additional information contact [Angie Tabor](#), Manager of Communications & Media Relations, at 614-239-4081.

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