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CLT Breaks All-Time High Passenger Record

Charlotte Douglas International Airport welcomed 46.4 million passengers in 2018, a 1 percent increase from 2017 numbers and an alltime high. Compared to 2008 total travelers, it's a 34 percent jump.

"We would like to thank the millions of passengers who chose CLT as their first choice for air travel," said Aviation Director/ CEO Brent Cagle. "Expansion of the hub, Charlotte region and the Airport's strong customer demand have placed us on a path of continued growth for the foreseeable future that we welcome."

Aircraft movements and cargo were also up in 2018. As the world's seventh busiest airport, CLT oversaw 550,013 landings and departures, a 0.4 percent climb from 2017. Cargo activity rose 2 percent to 178,805 tons of goods transported through CLT, illustrating the continued popularity of e-commerce.

Last year, CLT offered nonstop service to 175 destinations, including 36 international destinations and three US territories. Ten new nonstop destinations were launched.

The Airport also welcomed Volaris and Contour Airlines in 2018. Volaris is CLT's third foreign flag carrier offering passengers nonstop service to Guadalajara, Mexico. Contour provides daily flights to Beckley, West Virginia and Saturday service to Tampa, Florida.

CLT remains one of the fastest growing airports in the country and continues to prepare for passenger growth with Destination CLT, a \$2.5 billion development program. ◆

Airport Contributes **\$23 Billion** to **State's Annual Economy**

Charlotte Douglas International Airport leads the state as the top economic engine among North Carolina airports, according to a report released in January by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Division of Aviation.

The report, North Carolina: The State of Aviation, shows CLT contributes \$23 billion in annual economic output, \$1.1 billion in state/local taxes, 132,330 jobs for N.C. residents and \$5.7 billion in personal income.

Overall, North Carolina's 10 commercial service and 62 general aviation airports generate more than \$52 billion in economic output, approximately 307,000 jobs, \$12.6 billion in personal income and \$2.2 billion in state and local tax revenues to the state's economy.

These numbers reveal CLT makes up 44 percent of the state's economic output, 53 percent of state/local taxes, 43 percent of jobs and 46 percent of personal income related to North Carolina airports.

Data for the NCDOT report was compiled and analyzed by N.C. State University's Institute for Transportation Research and Education using 2017 figures from airports and the latest information on the state's aviation assets available from public and private sources. ◆



Spirit Airlines Announces Charlotte Service

Spirit Airlines is

beginning service June 20 at Charlotte Douglas International Airport on Concourse A Expansion.

The low-cost carrier will offer daily nonstop flights to Baltimore/Washington (BWI); Newark, New Jersey (EWR); Orlando, Florida (MCO) and Ft. Lauderdale, Florida (FLL).

Spirit was recently named 2018 Value

Airline of the Year by Air Transport World.

The airline operates more than 600 daily flights to 73 destinations in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean.

Visit spirit.com to make reservations. ♦

CLT-



Construction projects are well underway in the Destination CLT initiative, a \$2.5 billion capital investment program to renovate the concourses and expand CLT's roadways, curb front, airfield and terminal. Phase II of the Elevated Roadway and Terminal Curb Front will wrap up in March. Three of the Airport's five concourses are under renovation. Concourse E recently finished a gate expansion, and the East Terminal Phase II project is nearing completion.

Destination CLT is a collaborative effort with the Airport's airline partners and the FAA that is targeted to enhance capacity based on the Airport's growth forecast through 2035 while remaining demand driven or scalable to respond to airline and passenger demand.

Elevated Roadway and Terminal Curb Front

The upper level of the Elevated Roadway and Terminal Curb Front will undergo a traffic shift in March, signaling a major milestone. Vehicles will reroute from the current roadway to the new constructed roadway, marking the completion of Phase II. Lower level traffic will remain the same. Crews will then move quickly to Phase III, the final stage of the project. It involves tearing down the existing entrance and exit ramps to complete the west and east sides of the roadway by fall 2019.

Four temporary pedestrian bridges are being built to allow public access to and from the new roadway and terminal without crossing traffic.

CLT's Elevated Roadway and Terminal Curb Front will open by the end of the year, adding eight lanes on both the upper and lower level roadway to help meet local passenger demand. Upon its debut, traffic flow will be reconfigured. Commercial vehicles will shift to the three inside lanes near the terminal and personal vehicles will use the five outside lanes near the Hourly Deck.

The \$42 million project is 80 percent complete.

Terminal Renovations

Terminal renovations on Concourse B are 90 percent complete. Both sets of restrooms are open and terrazzo flooring is installed throughout the concourse, with some areas needing a final

polish.

Crews are installing chairs equipped with power outlets and wireless charging units on alternate armrests. Permanent signage installation in this area also is underway. Work on Concourse B will conclude in April.

Renovations on the existing Concourse A began September 10 and will run through early 2020. Currently, the north side of the concourse is closed to allow crews to work uninterrupted. Once the north side is complete, crews will move to the south side of the concourse.

Concourse C Renovations began January 14 and will wrap up in spring 2020.

Construction plans call for Concourses A, B and C to receive new ceiling tiles, fresh coats of paint, carpet in the seating areas, wall panels, upgraded seating with integrated power, USB ports and wireless charging hotspots.

Terrazzo flooring also will be placed in the center walkway of the concourses to better accommodate rolling luggage. Restrooms, HVAC, electrical, fire



alarm and sprinkler systems will be upgraded as well.

East Terminal Expansion – Phase II

East Terminal Expansion – Phase II will add a three level addition of approximately 51,000-square feet to the D/E Connector. The expansion will provide an area for multiple concessions on the Departures/ Ticketing level and will double the current number of escalators and elevators. The project is approximately 80 percent complete.

Permanent elevators are now in use, and crews are installing escalators. Concourse E Expansion The addition includes a food court, offices and baggage handling space, Mother's Room, and Pet Relief Area.

Construction is expected to wrap up this summer.

Concourse E Expansion – Phase VIII

Concourse E Expansion - Phase VIII added 6,200-square feet and gates on the southeast node of the concourse.

That expansion included a new boarding area at Gates 14-16, which opened December 20, alleviating congestion in the area. ◆



CLT Charity Golf Tournament Tees Off in April

Airport Community Partnerships is hosting the CLT Charity Golf Tournament April 15 at the Ballantyne Country Club with the goal to raise \$100,000 for a nonprofit working to make a difference in West Charlotte. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and play starts at 11 a.m.

Airport Community Partnerships consists of companies who operate out of, are based in, or have business with Charlotte Douglas International Airport. Participants seek to provide meaningful experiences with employees and Airport neighbors that create lasting changes within the community.

Proceeds from the 2019 tournament will benefit the Renaissance West Community Initiative (RWCI), which was established in 2012 to revitalize the Boulevard Homes public housing site into the newly developed community - The Renaissance. The initiative focuses on multiple critical factors, including mixed-income housing, educational opportunities, youth and adult development programs, health and wellness services and commercial investment.

Visit RWCI.org for more information about the initiative, and check out CLTCharityGolf. com to register for the tournament as a sponsor, team or player. •



Look for an American Express Centurion Lounge to open next year at Charlotte Douglas International Airport in the East Terminal Expansion, between Concourses D and E.

The 13,295-square foot signature lounge will be one of the largest in the Centurion Lounge network, providing floorto-ceiling windows with views of Charlotte's uptown skyline.

Amenities will include complimentary food and beverage from top chefs, mixologists and wine experts, a family room, premium restrooms and shower suites, access to high-speed Wi-Fi, noisebuffering workspaces and more.

Access to the Centurion Lounge is complimentary and exclusive for Platinum Card and Centurion Members, who may bring two guests at no additional cost. Centurion card holders may also enter with their immediate family. For additional travel companions, the cost is \$50 for each guest.

Similar lounges are located at Dallas, Houston, Las Vegas and Miami airports. ◆



American Adds **New Destinations**

This spring, American Airlines is introducing new CLT destinations.

The airline will begin daily service to Munich, Germany (MUC) on March 30.

American is also launching twice daily flights to Erie, Pennsylvania (ERI) on May 3. Seasonal routes to Traverse City, Michigan (TVC) and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (SDQ) kick off June 8.

Tickets are now on sale for the airline's increased service to Baltimore (BWI); Fort Lauderdale, Florida (FLL); Newark, New Jersey (EWR); Chicago O'Hare (ORD); Los Angeles (LAX) and New York (JFK)). Flights will begin in June.

American, the world's largest airline, currently provides nonstop service to 165 destinations in 25 countries around the world from CLT. Charlotte Douglas is American Airlines' second largest hub.

Visit aa.com to book a flight. ♦



Concourse A Expansion Debuts New Concessions

Shopping and dining in Concourse A Expansion now includes a lot more options.

The Airport's nine gate 230,000-square foot addition that opened in July 2018 has recently debuted several new concessions.

Paradies Lagardère, CLT's retail concessionaire, is offering the latest must have items with the opening of The Body Shop, InMotion and Charlotte's Landing. Formerly in the Atrium, The Body Shop offers beauty and skin care products, while InMotion provides a selection of personal technology accessories and Charlotte's Landing sells everything from chips to T-shirts.

HMSHost, CLT's food and beverage concessionaire, has also been busy. Panera Bread, a popular casual sandwich shop, the Airport's twelfth Starbucks and a second Jamba Juice are now serving passengers on Concourse A Expansion.

NoDa Brewing Company, a favorite Charlotte brewery, is appealing to passengers' taste buds on Concourse A Expansion as well. The location features 11 different brews, a full dining menu and cans available for to-go purchases.

Elsewhere in the terminal, Chalice Café on Concourse C is wowing travelers with a selection of beers and tasty food choices. ◆

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AIRPORT HOSTS OPERATION EXODUS

Approximately 3,300 soldiers traveled through CLT on December 19 as part of Operation Exodus.

Sixty-one buses transported troops from Fort Jackson, South Carolina to Charlotte Douglas that day as they headed home for a twoweek Christmas leave from basic training.

The USO Charlotte



Center staff, Airport Operations and several volunteers assisted with the annual event.

Soldiers were treated to free breakfast, beverages, snacks and gift packs. Paradies Lagardère, the Airport's retail partner, even offered free giftwrapping.

The Oakridge Middle School choir from Clover, South Carolina sang popular patriotic songs for the troops and presented them with handmade cards thanking them for their service. ◆

СІТҮ ОҒ СНАВІОТТЕ DEPARTMENT

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District 3 Airport Job Fair Seeks to **Fill Hundreds of Open Positions**

Charlotte Douglas, along with its tenants, will host the District 3 Airport Job Fair 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 23 at the Goodwill Opportunity Campus, 5301 Wilkinson Blvd., Charlotte, N.C. 28208. Attendees must be in line by 2:30 p.m. to enter.

A variety of companies will be present to share information about current and future job opportunities for full-time, part-time, seasonal and temporary employment.

Employers are seeking to fill hundreds of open positions in retail, ground transportation, airline services, valet services, maintenance, security, parking and food and beverage.

Participating organizations will include American Airlines, HMSHost, Paradies Lagardère, City of Charlotte (Aviation Department), Wilson Air Center, Piedmont Airlines,



Menzies Aviation, Air General and LSG Sky Chefs.

Attire for the job fair is business casual. Attendees are asked to bring multiple copies of their resume.

Some applications will be available to fill out on-site and interviews may be conducted that day.

Free parking will be available at the Goodwill Opportunity Campus. ♦