

Record First Quarter for BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport

4.9 Million Passengers Flew BWI Marshall in First Three Months of 2012, Up 2.6 Percent

For the first quarter of 2012, 4,932,590 commercial passengers flew through Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. This passenger traffic figure, an increase of 2.6 percent over the same period in 2011, represents a new all-time record for the first quarter of any year.

“The outstanding growth and success we experienced in 2011 has continued in early 2012,” said Paul J. Wiedefeld, Executive Director of BWI Marshall. “We thank our customers as we prepare for a number of terminal improvements that will enhance the travel experience at BWI Marshall.”

Southwest Airlines, the leading carrier at BWI Marshall Airport, served more than 2.8 million passengers in the first three months of 2012, a 5.6 percent increase over the same period in 2011. Other airlines to show growth for the quarter include JetBlue Airways, Delta Air Lines, US Airways, and British Airways.

Total cargo shipments for the first quarter rose 3.2 percent to 57.7 million pounds.

Later this year, several airlines will offer additional service at BWI Marshall. Southwest plans to offer 199 daily departures during the peak summer travel period, the most service the airline has ever offered from BWI Marshall. In April, Southwest started using its new, larger 737-800 aircraft on certain BWI Marshall routes. For international service, Condor Airlines of Germany will start twice-weekly seasonal flights from BWI Marshall to Frankfurt, Germany in July. Frankfurt is an important international destination and a major global hub market. Bahamasair will launch service to Freeport, Grand Bahama Island today, May 17.

Next month, work is scheduled to begin on a major terminal enhancement program at BWI Marshall. The improvements will include a new security checkpoint, a secure connector between Concourses B and C with new passenger amenities, and an improved Concourse C facility with improved airline gate hold rooms and new food and retail space.

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