



MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF FARGO

RECORDS TUMBLE AT FARGO'S AIRPORT AS PASSENGERS DEFY THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN

FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA (Tuesday, August 11, 2009) – Hector International Airport announced a new all-time record month for total passengers in July, with 36,072 getting on flights at the Airport – breaking the old monthly record of 32,385 set last July. Hector International was one of the few airports in the country to report passenger growth in July. Total July passenger traffic at the Airport was up 11.4% over last year. Passenger enplanements at Hector have set monthly records in 11 of the last 12 months.

To augment historical service provided by Northwest Airlines to Minneapolis/St Paul and United Express service to Chicago and Denver, the Airport has been active in recruiting new airlines to serve the Fargo-Moorhead market. In the last three years the Airport has landed new service on Frontier Airlines to Denver, on Allegiant Air to Las Vegas, Phoenix, Orlando, and Los Angeles, and on Delta Air Lines to Salt Lake City.

Hector International has become a model for airport growth around the country, largely due to its partnerships with local business leaders facilitated through the Greater Fargo-Moorhead Economic Development Corporation (GFMEDC). The GFMEDC has been able to bring leaders to the table to meet with airlines, and convince them to enter the market based on the commitment of local business to use new flights.

The Airport has also partnered with Sixel Consulting Group (SCG), an air service development firm that provides market research and marketing materials for current and prospective airlines. SCG team members now showcase the Fargo-Moorhead market as a model for how to recruit, land, and support new air service in presentations to airports nationwide.

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