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## Airports Authority Completes First Phase of International Arrivals Building Expansion at Dulles Airport

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority has completed the first phase of a major expansion project at Washington Dulles International Airport's International Arrivals Building.

The International Arrivals Building (IAB) is the area where U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers process arriving international passengers and flight crews. The IAB was built in 1991 when the Airport served about 1.4 million international passengers per year. In 2008, Dulles served a record 6.2 million international passengers.

"This expansion project offers our international visitors a warm welcome into our nation's capital with an attractive facility and a more efficient space for U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers to process arriving passengers," said James E. Bennett, President and CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority.

The IAB Expansion Project will add approximately 206,000 square feet to the existing facility, which will allow CBP to serve about 2,400 passengers per hour—nearly double that of its current capacity. In order to minimize disruption to Airport operations, the project is being undertaken in three phases.

The first phase, which opens for operations on September 22, includes 50 booths for CBP to process arriving passengers and flight crews and new parking areas for the Mobile Lounges that transport passengers from the aircraft gate areas. Passengers will exit the Mobile Lounges at a new mezzanine level above the Primary Inspection Hall. Skylights and expansive window areas allow natural light to filter into the space.

The next phases of the IAB expansion project will improve the facility's baggage handling areas. A new airline baggage handling facility will be constructed. The existing passenger baggage claim equipment will be replaced and an additional five units added. Renovations of the existing restroom facilities will also occur. The entire project is estimated to be completed in 2011.

The International Arrivals Building Expansion project is part of the D2/Dulles Development capital construction program. Other D2 projects include a new passenger security screening area that opened last week and the AeroTrain underground airport train system that is currently undergoing testing. For more information, please visit [www.mwaa.com](http://www.mwaa.com) and click on the D2/Dulles Development button.

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