

SAN DIEGO COUNTY
REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY



PUBLIC & COMMUNITY RELATIONS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 11, 2008

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**Virgin America celebrates launch of very first flight to
San Diego from San Francisco**

*Star-studded inaugural welcomes Virgin founder
Sir Richard Branson to San Diego*

What: Virgin America, California's hometown airline, launches service between its home base of San Francisco International Airport (SFO) and San Diego International Airport (SAN). Beginning Tuesday, February 12, Virgin America will offer three daily flights to San Diego, expanding to five daily flights on March 9. An average of 2,300 passengers flies each way between San Diego and San Francisco every day.

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders and the San Diego Charger Girls will welcome Virgin Group Founder and Chairman Sir Richard Branson in true San Diego style, with water cannon salute, a reception at Gate 19 and a VIP receiving line on the tarmac as the first flight arrives from San Francisco with Branson on board.

**When: Tuesday, February 12, 2008
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.**

- 11:15 a.m. Virgin American plane arrival with water cannon salute
- 11:20 a.m. Mayor Jerry Sanders and Charger Girls provide red carpet welcome to Sir Richard Branson on the tarmac
- 11:30 a.m. Brief speaking program with Q & A
- 11:45 a.m. Limited press tours of plane

Who:

- Alan Bersin, Board Chairman, Airport Authority
- Mayor Jerry Sanders, City of San Diego
- David Cush, President/CEO, Virgin America
- Sir Richard Branson, Virgin Group Chairman and Founder

Where: San Diego International Airport, Terminal 1 (West end), Gate 19

Media are requested to meet at 10:30 a.m. in front of Terminal 1 at Gate 19 on the sidewalk in front. Upon arrival, contact Sharie Shipley (619-838-8245) or Steve Shultz (619-993-4684) of the Airport Authority. (Validated media parking will be available in the Terminal 1 parking lot.) As a reminder, if you park curbside, someone must remain with the vehicle.

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