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Airport celebrates major milestone for The Green Build

Topping Out ceremony marks installation of the final steel beam for airport's 460,000 square-foot terminal expansion

SAN DIEGO – June 8, 2011 – San Diego International Airport celebrated a major milestone for The Green Build today. At a “Topping Out” ceremony, the final steel beam for the terminal expansion was installed, marking the completion of the steel work. The ceremony was attended by more than 200 elected officials, Airport Authority Board members, business and community leaders and members of the construction team.

Guests were able to sign the steel beam prior to its installation, and enjoyed comments from Mayor Jerry Sanders, City of San Diego; Robert H. Gleason, Chair, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority Board; Bruce Boland, Terminal Development Program Chair, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority Board; Thella F. Bowens, President/CEO, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority; and Shawn Rosenberger, Vice President & General Manager, Turner Construction Company, San Diego.

The beam was then raised into place, topped with an American flag and evergreen tree, by a massive, 190-foot crane.

“We’re pleased to mark this significant milestone for The Green Build, and celebrate the project’s contributions to the local economy,” said Thella F. Bowens, President/CEO, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. “The Green Build is an economic stimulus for the region, with more than \$146 million in contracts let to local businesses to date. The project will create more than 1,000 jobs at peak construction.”

The terminal expansion adds 460,000 square-feet to Terminal 2, and more than 5,600 tons of steel were needed to provide the framework for the building.

“Topping Out” is a term used to refer to the completion of the steel framework for a building project. The tradition can be traced to the ancient Scandinavian religious practice of placing a tree on the top of a new building to appease the tree-dwelling spirits of their ancestors who had been displaced. Today, the tree or leafy branch placed on the topmost beam symbolizes growth and is said to bring luck.

The Green Build terminal expansion is being constructed by general contractor joint venture Turner/PCL/Flatiron and is designed by HNTB.

About The Green Build

[The Green Build](#) will bring a number of long-awaited upgrades to passengers traveling in and out of San Diego International Airport, including 10 new gates, a dual-level roadway in front of

(more)

Terminal 2 to separate arriving and departing passengers and reduce curb front congestion, more security lanes, expanded waiting areas and more shopping and dining options. The Green Build, a \$1 billion project, will create 1,000 jobs at peak construction. Travelers can expect to take advantage of the finished facilities in 2013.

In 2010, passengers rated San Diego International Airport 87 percent in overall passenger satisfaction, one of the highest scores in seven years of surveying.

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