

A BUSINESS TRAVEL UPDATE FROM MILNE BUSINESS TRAVEL SVCS 24 AIRPORT ROAD, WEST LEBANON, NH 03784 (603) 298-6644

## *Airlines*

### ***Passport Application Receipt as Travel Document Ends September 30***

The temporary rule that let U.S. citizens travel by air within the Western Hemisphere using a Department of State official proof of application receipt will end, as scheduled, at midnight September 30. U.S. citizens who departed the country under this travel accommodation prior to October 1 with a Department of State official proof of passport application receipt and government-issued identification will be readmitted with these same documents if returning to the United States after September 30.

The temporary accommodation allowed U.S. citizens traveling to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda who had applied for, but not yet received their passports, to enter and depart from the U.S. with a government-issued photo ID and an official receipt showing that they had applied for a passport. (Source: Department of Homeland Security press release).

### ***World's Air Traffic Keeps Growing***

World airport passenger traffic rose by a healthy 4.9 percent in 2006 and 2007 is poised to be an even better year, according to the Arthur D. Little/Air Transport World "World Airport Report. Last year's growth came from Eastern Europe and Russia-CIS, which this year's is expected to benefit from the continuing airline recovery in the U.S. and higher growth rates in the Middle East, Africa and South America. With no major U.S. airlines in bankruptcy for the first time since 2002, airport traffic growth should be stronger here, according to the report. Regional airports are the source of most growth. This is due in large part to the success of the low-cost carrier model. (Source: Air Transport World press release).

### ***JetBlue Expands in Florida***

JetBlue continues to build its Florida service. It is adding nonstop daily service between Burlington, Vt., and Orlando, the only non-stop flight between Vermont and Florida. It is also expanding the number of cities it serves out of Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport by adding nonstop daily service to Charlotte, N.C., Raleigh-Durham, N.C. and Richmond, Va. The Richmond service starts November 1, the other three start January 10; all run through April 30. Jet Blue is offering low introductory fares of \$79 for the Vermont flights and \$69 for the flights out of Fort Lauderdale. (Source: JetBlue press release)

### ***American Continues to Add Service***

American Airlines continues to expand its network in the U.S. and internationally. It will add new nonstop service to Phoenix Sky Harbor International from Miami International Airport and two new routes from Dallas/Fort Worth to Panama City, Panama, and Providenciales, Turks & Caicos Islands on December 13. The Panama City route will operate four days a week; the Providenciales route will operate once a week. On November 4, American will add nonstop service between Lambert St. Louis International Airport and Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport, Springfield, Ill. (Source: AA press release)

### ***Delta Starts Boston-Philadelphia Nonstop, Offers Double Miles on Florida Flights***

Delta Air Lines is starting new service between Boston and Philadelphia November 5. Delta Connection carrier Comair will operate four daily nonstops. Delta also announced that SkyMiles members can earn double miles on round-trip Delta Air Lines on flights with Florida through November 15. Register for the promotion at [www.delta.com/floridabonus](http://www.delta.com/floridabonus). (Source: Delta press release).

### ***Horizon Air Adds Palm Springs Service***

Horizon Air is offering daily nonstop jet service between San Jose an Palm Springs, Calif., and between Portland, Ore., and Palm Springs from Nov. 4 through April 6. (Source: Horizon Air press release).

## Security

### ***Homeland Security Tests Vermont Drivers' License for Land Border Crossing***

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the state of Vermont are collaborating on a project that will enhance the security of state driver's license and potentially serve as an acceptable alternative document for crossing U.S. land and sea borders. This agreement, similar to one reached with the state of Washington earlier this year, is a possible compliance alternative for Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) border crossing requirements. The WHTI requirements for documentation at border crossings go into effect January 31, 2008. At the same time, the DHS intends to end the routine practice of accepting oral declarations alone at land and sea ports of entry and also proposes to be alternative procedures for U.S. and Canadian children then, too. Vermont will develop an enhanced drivers license that will provide residents who apply and qualify with a document that is acceptable for use at U.S. land and seaports. The enhanced driver's license will be a little more expensive than a regular license and will require proof of citizenship, identity and residence as well as contain security features similar to a U.S. passport. (Source: DHS).

## Hotels

### ***Crowne Plazas Open in Cincinnati, Miami, Alexandria Gatwick***

The Crowne Plaza Cincinnati Blue Ash, the first Crowne Plaza in Cincinnati, has opened. It is near Kenwood Town Center with major business such as Coca-Cola, Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc., Siemens Energy & Automation, Inc., Procter & Gamble, GE and Ford Motor Co., nearby. The 200-room hotel is a conversion. The 156-room Crowne Plaza in Miami has recently opened. It is near the Baptist Hospital of Miami and companies such as AvMed Health Plans, GE Healthcare and Noven Pharmaceuticals. The new 253-room Crowne Plaza The Crown Plaza Gatwick Crawley has opened. The property is undergoing a multi million dollar refurbishment. It has 236 rooms and will add a block of 50 Club rooms in the next year. (Source: Crowne Plaza press release).



## ***Spotlight On.....***

### ***Airline Delays-Whose Fault?***

***In August, a Federal Aviation report named June 2007 as one of the worst travel months in U.S. history. And the Department of Transportation said that the first half of 2007 was the worst for air travel delays in 13 years, since the department began taking statistics. When it comes to assigning blame for air traffic delays, consumers tend to fault the airlines, according to TNS, a market insight and information company. It recently released a focusing on consumer perceptions of the causes for air travel delays.***

- ***58 percent of people flying in the last three months experienced at least one delay***
- ***Half of them reported that the delay was within the control of the airline—overbooking, mechanicals***
- ***Just under half attributed delays to weather, late arriving planes or both***
- ***Roughly ten percent cited security***
- ***About five percent said it was other travelers boarding too slowly***