



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

# News Release

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## **O'HARE RECOGNIZED AS BEST AIRPORT IN NORTH AMERICA FOR TENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

CHICAGO – O'Hare International Airport received the 2009 *Global Traveler* Award for "Best Airport in North America". O'Hare was recognized by business travelers who participated in a survey conducted between January and August 2009. *Global Traveler* magazine is a nationally-circulated travel publication for business travelers.

"On behalf of Mayor Richard M. Daley and the Chicago Department of Aviation, I want to thank *Global Traveler* magazine and its readers for awarding this prestigious honor to O'Hare International Airport," said Aviation Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino. "We are pleased to know that travelers appreciate our efforts to provide the highest level of service, technology, efficiency, sustainability and safety at one of the world's busiest airports. As progress continues on the O'Hare Modernization Program, Chicago will offer the opportunity for even more destinations and service for global travelers."

*Global Traveler* conducted an open-ended survey of its readers to determine the best airports, airlines, hotels, loyalty programs and travel-related products in 60 travel-related categories. More than 25,000 people responded to the annual survey. The full results of the survey have been announced in the December 2009 issue of *Global Traveler* magazine.

*Global Traveler* readers are frequent premium travelers who average 32 round-trip flights a year, with 96 percent traveling in first or business class regularly. Members of the travel industry and employees of *Global Traveler* did not participate in the survey.

Including this award, O'Hare has won "Best Airport in North America" for ten consecutive years by a leading travel magazine (2005–2009 *Global Traveler*, 2000–2004 *Business Traveler*).

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The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit [www.flychicago.com](http://www.flychicago.com) to learn more about the Chicago Department of Aviation.

The CDA continues to incorporate and expand sustainable initiatives for airport planning, operations and maintenance, concessions and tenants in accordance with the CDA Sustainable Airport Manual (SAM), released in August 2009. To view case studies, lessons learned and new technologies, and for more information on the SAM, please visit [www.airportsgoinggreen.org](http://www.airportsgoinggreen.org).

The O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP), introduced by Mayor Richard M. Daley in June 2001, transforms O'Hare's airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration. The program will reduce overall delays at the Airport by 79 percent, and bad weather delays by 95 percent. It will create 195,000 new jobs and \$18 billion in additional economic activity each year. Please visit [www.oharemodernization.org](http://www.oharemodernization.org) to learn more about the OMP.

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