

## Alaska Airlines Completes \$238-Million Modernization of Terminal 6

Albert Rodriguez



The new Terminal 6 ticketing lobby breaks with the traditional layout of most terminals and welcomes travelers with customer-friendly, state-of-the-art check-in kiosks and bag-check stations that maximize efficiency and convenience.

Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, local elected officials, Alaska Airlines and airport executives celebrated the completion of the \$238-million Terminal 6 modernization project on March 27. The completion of this project marks a major commitment to Los Angeles International's (LAX) domestic and international travelers to increase passenger-processing efficiency, security, comfort and convenience.

The Terminal 6 renovation added customer-friendly islands of check-in kiosks; bag-check stations; a modern, behind-the-scenes, in-line baggage handling system; more security screening lanes and increased lobby space. All of these welcome changes add up to a greatly enhanced and innovative, customer-friendly passenger experience devoid of conventional, barrier-like check-in counters. The design and layout is expected to reduce customer wait times from 20 minutes to approximately four minutes.

Once past security screening, travelers will now enjoy a brighter and roomier environment and the convenience of electrical outlets for personal electronics at half the seats in the boarding gate areas.

The move by Alaska Airlines from Terminal 3 to Terminal 6 provides its customers easier access to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection inspection checkpoints and to code-share partner Delta Air Lines in Terminal 5. The relocation eliminated the need to bus arriving international passengers to a different terminal for customs processing. Convenience is also a major factor in the new baggage claim area with a redesign that eases congestion and streamlines luggage location.

The challenging 13-month construction schedule necessitated work being done in phases with temporary closure and barricading of much of the terminal, while at the same time, maintaining normal day-to-day operations. The temporary inconvenience to passengers was well worth the

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## Replacement Central Utility Plant Marks Construction Milestone



Jay Berkowitz

By Debbie Kao  
The new \$438-million replacement Central Utility Plant (CUP) at LAX reached a construction milestone in January as the last piece of structural steel was placed atop the 1,400-ton steel frame. The "Topping Out" ceremony was celebrated with the 1,000-year-old tradition of placing a small tree and an American flag (a newer practice) on the last structural beam as a symbol of the building team's and owner's hopes for good luck and success. The beam was embellished with signatures and notes from

the construction team and was then lifted to a height of 75 feet and attached to the top of the structure to rousing celebratory applause.

The 64,000-square-foot, four-story building scheduled to go into operation summer 2014 will transform the passenger experience by improving ambient comfort with additional capacity for air conditioning, heating and lighting throughout all the terminals, the iconic LAX Theme Building, as well as airport administrative buildings. The new CUP will be a modern, state-of-the-art,

The "Topping Out" ceremony for the replacement Central Utility Plant marks an important construction milestone and symbolizes the owner's and construction team's aspirations for success and good luck.

energy-efficient, computer-managed facility designed to be 60 percent more efficient in producing chilled water, using a thermal-energy storage tank with capacity for 1.6 million gallons of water and 15,500 ton-hours of cooling capacity.

An innovative co-generation turbine system will produce electricity and steam that, in turn, will help power a second set of generators to meet cooling and heating requirements in all passenger terminals and facilities.

The new CUP is designed as an essential facility with stringent seismic drift criteria to protect the building during a major earthquake. In addition, project construction complies with LEED Silver Certification Standards established by the U.S. Green Building Council. An essential facility, the replacement CUP will play a vital role in the unprecedented modernization of Los Angeles International Airport.

## Mayor, LAX Officials Host Media Hard-Hat Tour at New Tom Bradley International Terminal

Members of the news and travel media were hosted by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and airport officials in January for a "hard hat" tour of the New Tom Bradley International Terminal (New TBIT) to mark the half-way point in construction of the monumental \$1.9-billion construction project.

Media were guided along what will become the secure corridor leading to customs and which provided an elevated view of the future boarding gates and retail/concessions areas. The tour's culmination was the cavernous "Great Hall" that will provide 150,000 square feet of premier dining, retail shopping, airline club lounges and other passenger amenities. The "Great Hall" promises to become an international gathering plaza, a setting rivaling the great transportation halls of Europe.

Reporters not only got a behind-the-scenes tour of the construction, but also met many of the workers. The New TBIT, along with the various other construction projects underway at LAX, comprise the largest public works program in the City's history and will ultimately create 40,000 construction-related jobs. There are 25 projects in the \$4.1-billion Phase 1 of the overall LAX capital improvement program.



Jay Berkowitz

From left to right: Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, LAWA Deputy Executive Director for Airports Development Roger Johnson, LAWA Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey and Board of Airport Commissioners President Michael Lawson during media hard-hat tour explain the dimensions and amenities of the Great Hall within the New Tom Bradley International Terminal.

The New TBIT facility will add 1.2 million square feet -- doubling the size of the existing Tom Bradley International Terminal. It will contain 45,000 tons of steel and enough glass to create a window the size of 6.5 football fields. Nine of the new 18 gates will be able to accommodate

passenger loads for new-generation aircraft, such as the Airbus A380. The Phase 1 west gates and Great Hall will open early 2013. When completed and in full operation, the New TBIT will process 4,000 passengers an hour up, from the current 2,800.

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Become a part of the exciting changes taking place at LAX and receive your very own pair of LAneXt™ lenticular luggage tags, free, when you join our newsletter subscription list. By joining you will keep abreast of the \$4.1-billion in capital improvements taking place at Los Angeles International Airport, status on the individual projects, and the dedicated people working hard on the projects.

The luggage tags will show pride in your hometown airport and announce to the world the on-going modernization and resurgence of LAX as a world-class, aviation destination.

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## New In-Terminal Communications Program Reflects Everyday Faces of LAX

Travelers and tenants at Los Angeles International Airport are by now familiar with new, bold, large, colorful posters that communicate the end-benefits of the on-going construction. From pilots to tourists to business people to shutterbugs and pilots, the new in-terminal communications media reflects the everyday faces of LAX and provides airport users with information on all the changes taking place behind the scenes that will revitalize LAX's reputation as a world-class airport worthy of our culturally vibrant and dynamic city. For travelers on the go, the posters feature a handy Quick Response (QR) code, which allows smart-phone users to scan the information and take it with them.



Praxis

# Terminal 6 Modernization

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Alaska Airlines

wait, as travelers in Terminal 6 are now among the first to experience the exciting new changes and improved customer service scheduled for LAX.

Construction included sustainable practices and energy-efficient lighting, cooling and heating. Part of the renovation incorporated Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification standards by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Total project cost was funded using \$16 million in Alaska Airlines invested capital for proprietary improvements including a club lounge room, specialty lighting, finishes and other architectural elements; approximately \$20 million in reimbursements from the Transportation Security Administration for security screening measures; and the remainder in Los Angeles World Airports commercial paper/long term debts, LAWA cash, and Passenger Facility Charges.



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**Top**

Customer-friendly check-in kiosks reduce average wait times from 20 minutes to four minutes.

**Middle**

A newly remodeled area at Terminal 6 is lighter, brighter and results in a more enjoyable walk to boarding gates.

**Bottom**

The newly remodeled rotunda in the boarding gate area of Terminal 6 features more room and new seating with convenient electrical outlets for personal electronics at half the seats.

PLEASE SEND COMMENTS, INQUIRIES AND SUGGESTIONS TO:

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