FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 17, 2010 (New Orleans, LA)  Today, Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport will host a Kick Off Ceremony for the Construction of the Concourse D Expansion at 11:00 am in the Aviation Board Room.

During the December 2009 New Orleans Aviation Board (NOAB) meeting, the Board awarded the $16.8 Million Expansion of Concourse D to McDonnell Group, LLC of Metairie. The Concourse D Expansion will add 6 airline gates in an open rotunda style format, doubling the capacity of the concourse. The project will include new food and beverage outlets, new retailers and restrooms. “The addition of these gates will allow us to begin the transition of our terminal to the west, providing more modern and efficient facilities for our airline tenants and our passengers,” concluded NOAB Chairman Dan Packer. The Concourse D was designed by Sizeler Thompson Brown Architects of New Orleans.

The Airport anticipates beginning construction on Concourse D Expansion at the end of March and should be completed by late 2011.

The Concourse D Expansion is being funded by Passenger Facility Charges (PFC). PFCs are a user fees that are collected on each enplaned passenger at an airport and are how airports across the country fund non-safety related improvements to their facilities.

The Concourse D Expansion is part of a multi-year, $417 Million Airport Capital Improvement Program.