

For Immediate Release
February 22, 2001

Contact:
Public Affairs Department
(972) 574-NEWS

5,000 students expected at DFW Airport for Construction Career Days

DALLAS/FORT WORTH AIRPORT, TEXAS (February 22, 2001)—Bus loads of area high school students will arrive at DFW International Airport on Tuesday, February 27, at 9 a.m. to take part in the third annual Construction Career Days. Students will learn about the many opportunities available in the construction field and the need for skilled workers for the more than 4,000 new construction jobs in North Texas.

According to the National Center for Construction Education and Research, the average construction worker is male and in his mid 50s, nearing retirement age. Consequently, experts say the construction industry must attract young skilled workers into the field in order to complete the more than 250,000 construction projects nationwide.

“DFW Airport is excited about hosting this educational event,” said Jeff Fegan, CEO of DFW International Airport. “This is a great opportunity for interested students to develop their skills and get a first-hand look at some of the construction equipment that is used to build some of the facilities around the Airport.”

Commercial construction professionals from Hensel Phelps and Austin Commercial, who are the two general contractors working on the Airport’s Capital Development Program, will talk to the students about the construction projects at DFW Airport, as well as showcase architectural models and artistic drawings of the Airport’s future Automated People Mover and International Terminal D.

Area commercial construction human resources representatives and DFW Airport employment personnel will also attend the event to recruit potential employees and interns.

-more-

This three-day event kicks off with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:30 a.m., followed by a series of activities beginning at 9:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Participating students will learn about the construction industry through hands-on activities, creative exhibits, trade industry displays, speeches and student competitions.

Students will also watch demonstrations of construction equipment and trucks, such as earthmovers, backhoe loaders, mini-excavators, cranes and forklifts.

Construction Career Days will be held at the old American Airlines runway on Amon Carter Boulevard. This event will last through March 1.

Construction Career Days is sponsored by the Associated General Contractors of America, Federal Highway Administration and Texas Department of Transportation.

DFW International Airport is the world's third busiest airport, serving 60 million passengers a year with nonstop service to 129 domestic and 31 international destinations worldwide. For real-time flight information, parking availability or further details regarding the many services provided at DFW Airport, log on to www.dfairport.com.

###

***Editor's Note:** A ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:30 a.m. will take place to designate the site of Construction Career Days. Jeff Fegan, CEO of DFW International Airport, will give the opening remarks.*