

**SAN BERNARDINO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**A MILESTONE FOR THE
SAN BERNARDINO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Runway Reopening Ceremony on December 2, 2005

The San Bernardino International Airport is celebrating the reopening of its 10,000' x 200' runway on Friday, December 2, 2005. The event will be held in the Airport Terminal and will commence at 10:00 am, for business networking. The formal ceremony is scheduled to begin at 11:00 am with the Honorable Congressman Jerry Lewis as the one of the guest speakers. This is a milestone for the San Bernardino International Airport (formerly Norton Air Force Base) and a significant event to introduce the Airport as a critical cornerstone in the revitalization of the Inland Empire.

Over the past four years, the Airport has engaged in several major infrastructure improvement projects including substantial hangar and utility upgrades. By far the most critical project has been the complete reconstruction of the 60-year-old military runway. Through a combination of several federal, state and local funding sources totaling in excess of \$35 million, the entire runway was removed, and the sub-base material was reconstructed in two major phases over a 21 month long period. As a part of the runway reconstruction project, the entire runway and the surrounding safety areas were upgraded to meet current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) design standards. "A project of this order and magnitude could not have been realized without Congressman Jerry Lewis' strong support and continued commitment to the redevelopment efforts at the former Norton Air Force Base," said San Bernardino County 3rd District Supervisor and Airport Authority Commissioner, Dennis Hansberger.

Significant portions of the runway have been closed during the past three years to facilitate the long reconstruction project, which has severely restricted the Airport's ability to accommodate commercial aircraft. However, throughout all phases of the construction project, the Airport placed great emphasis on minimizing impacts to existing Airport users ensuring that a maximum useable runway area was open at all times.

"With the completion of this newly reconstructed runway, the Airport stands ready to accommodate and attract any cargo charter, private charter or airline and it enhances the Airport's ability to compete and position itself in the global market," said Mayor Judith Valles, President of the Airport Authority Commission.