# RALEIGH-DURHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

### **RALEIGH-DURHAM AIRPORT AUTHORITY**



## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN

May 1, 2017 June 24, 2022 - UPDATE

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#### INTRODUCTION

Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU or Airport) which is owned and operated by the Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority (Authority), has prepared this Emergency Contingency Plan pursuant to §42301 of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to the following:

- 1. Robert K. Peterson, Director of Operations at rob.peterson@rdu.com.
- 2. John Connell, Senior Vice President of Operations & Asset Management, john.connell@rdu.com

This plan is filed with the Department of Transportation (DOT) because: (1) RDU is a commercial airport; and/or (2) RDU may be used by an air carrier described in USC 42301(a)(1) for diversions.

This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, the Authority will:

- Provide assistance for the deplanement of passengers;
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates or remote parking locations available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

TBI Airport Management, Inc., who manages the Authority's ramp tower operations, notifies Airport Operations when multiple diversions or any other type of irregular operations are anticipated and/or when any of these aircraft are actually being received. This notification process allows the Authority time to prepare for any future requests for assistance or support from the air carriers. The notification also allows the Authority to provide up-to-date and current information to the passengers and flying public. The success of any and all operations involving excessive delays, an unusually high number of diversions or irregular operations, dictates the need for open dialogue between the air carriers, TBI Airport Management, Inc. and the Authority, as well as the other tenants and governmental agencies at RDU.

#### **AIRPORT INFORMATION**

Name of Airport: Raleigh-Durham International Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Robert K. Peterson, Director of

**Operations** 

Preparer contact number: 919-840-7526

Preparer contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:rob.peterson@rdu.com">rob.peterson@rdu.com</a>

Date of submission of plan:

Airport Category:

Medium Hub

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact the Airport Duty Manager's Cell at 919-455-6791, the Airport Operations Duty Officer at 919-397-4416, or Central Communications at 919-840-7510/11 for assistance.

## PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEPLANEMENT OF PASSENGERS FOLLOWING EXCESSIVE TARMAC DELAYS

As described below, the Authority owns two passenger terminal facilities and the passenger boarding bridges necessary to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft. The Authority leases these facilities to various air carriers but does not operate any of the equipment needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft. Therefore, the Authority is unable on its own to provide for the deplanement of passengers. Additionally, Airport Authority personnel are not trained to assist in the deplanement of passengers using equipment either owned by the Authority or owned and operated by air carriers or contract service providers. The Authority can provide a list of airlines, ground handlers, fixed base operators and others who may have the necessary equipment and personnel to safely deplane passengers to airlines as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays, at the contact number listed above. The Authority will assist the airlines in the coordination of transportation for passengers of aircraft parked at remote locations to the terminal facilities.

# PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR THE SHARING OF FACILITIES AND MAKE GATES AVAILABLE IN AN EMERGENCY

Forty-five gates at RDU are either under the direct control of the Authority or assigned on a common/preferential use basis to air carriers. The Authority will work with our tenant air carriers to make gates available to another air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate to the extent practicable. If additional gates are needed, the Authority will work with tenant air carriers to make preferential use gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate to the extent practicable. The Authority is unable to accommodate aircraft larger than the B777 at any terminal gates. Larger aircraft will need to be parked and deplaned from remote locations with equipment provided by an air carrier or other contract service provider.

# PLAN TO PROVIDE A STERILE AREA FOR PASSENGERS WHO HAVE NOT CLEARED UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

RDU has defined sterile areas capable of accommodating limited numbers of international passengers. The local Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials at the Airport have established procedures that will allow international passengers who have not cleared United States Customs and Border Protection to be deplaned into the terminal's sterile area to the extent practicable. CBP has limited staffing and facilities available and can only accommodate one international

diversion at any international gate. Multiple international diversions will be required to remote park and can expect extensive processing delays.

### **PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN**

The Authority will provide public access to this emergency contingency plan by the following means:

- Provide copies of the Plan to all airlines operating at the Airport.
- Publish the Plan on the Airport's website for public view.