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For more information, contact:
Mark Hanna, A.A.E, Executive Director
Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport
1200 Capital Airport Drive
PH: 217-788-1060

N E W S R E L E A S E

Springfield Airport Completes \$7.8 Million in Capital Improvements

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOISThe Springfield Airport Authority announced the completion of more than \$7.8 million in capital improvements to runways, taxiways and facilities during the 2008 calendar year. Of the \$7.8 million in costs, over 90% was funded with federal and state monies. The improvements greatly impact areas involving passenger safety, airport security and customer service.

Capital projects completed and or started in 2008 include: runway safety area enhancements, lighting, signage and marking improvements and the associated taxiway extension; another taxiway widening project and perimeter road improvements; perimeter fence upgrades; purchase of a new Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting vehicle; improvements to the Public Safety building; replacing the terminal building's emergency generator; upgrades to the baggage carousel; purchase of passenger loading ramps meeting Americans with Disabilities (ADA) standards; upgrades of snow removal equipment; and TSA checkpoint remodeling.

“These are necessary infrastructure and equipment improvements to keep our community’s airport safe, modern and competitive in a highly regulated industry,” says Airport Authority Board Chair, Frank Vala. "This investment demonstrates our commitment to keeping pace with demand and exceeding regulatory requirements regarding the operation of the airport. We are appreciative of the capital improvement programs available at the federal and state levels, which provided the necessary assistance to complete these important projects.”

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