Denver International Airport (DIA): The Largest Int. Airport in USA

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Location

- 25 miles from Downtown of Denver in Colorado
- Operated by City and County of Denver

Date of Operation

- February 28, 1995 – Replaced to Stapleton International Airport
DIA – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Cost
- Overall $4.8 Billion
- Over budget - $2 Billion

Magnitude
- The largest (140 Km²) IA in U.S. and the second largest IA in the World
- 9th & 5th busiest IA in the World by passenger & aircraft movement
Achievements

- The best International Airport in North America by “Readers of Business Travelers Magazine”, 2005

- America’s Best Run Airport by “Time Magazine”, 2002

Source: “Welcome to America’s Best Run Airport” (http://www.time.com/time/magazine)
DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

- Nonstop service to 133 U.S. destinations
- Nonstop flights to 18 international cities
- Average of 1,550 flights daily
- Estimated 8.1 million visitors arrived in Colorado
DIA SOCIAL BENEFITS

- Now, More than 300,000 people live within 15 miles of DIA
- More than 184,000 people currently work
- Over 90 percent employers rely on air cargo to ship and receive goods and supplies
- Half million people will live there by 2030
ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- $32.2 billion contribute into Colorado’s economy on an annual basis.
- DIA accounts for 75% of aviation tax revenue to the state.
- Passenger count declines 4.7% in November due to sagging economy & airline reductions.
Rocky Mountain Roof

- Depicts snow-capped Rockies
- Supported by two rows of 34 columns and 10 miles of cable
- Two layers of translucent fabric and triangular clerestory windows
- Supported by tension cables
- Provide 100% daytime ambient lighting
DIA – TECHNICAL ISSUES & INNOVATIONS

Pinwheel Formation

- Midfield terminal & concourses
- 6 runways
  - 4 – North/South
  - 2 – East/West
- Allowing independent aircraft flow
- Allowing room for expansion
DIA – TECHNICAL ISSUES & INNOVATIONS

Expandability

- 33,000 acres of land
- Designed to expand for 50 years
- Reserved space for Concourse D & E
- Maximum of 12 runways
Automated Baggage System

- Intended to reduce delays, waiting time & labor costs
- Actually increased costs, delayed project and failed

Underground Transit System

- 1998 – Major system shut down
  - affecting 5,000 passengers
- 4 stations – each concourse & terminal
- 31 cars carry 100 passengers
- 11 minute end to end travel
- Art-filled tunnels under taxiways
Other Extras

- Passenger Bridge
- Solar Energy System
- “Free” Wi-Fi access
- Four smoking lounges
DIA – SOCIAL/POLICY ISSUES

Hiccups

- United Airlines caused design changes, delays, and cost overruns due to changing requirements.
- Mayoral change two years into the project.

Source: wikipedia.org, images.google.com
DIA – SOCIAL/POLICY ISSUES

Noisy Jets

- DIA is 25 miles from Denver. Stapleton Airport was only 6 miles away.
- Noise issues and NIMBY forced project to "boonies".

Source: wikipedia.org, maps.google.com
In 2003 and again in 2006: DIA strands thousands in the airport due to blizzards.
~ 400 flights canceled on 3/26/09.

Source: www.9news.com – Colorado’s News Leader, wikipedia.org
DIA – SOCIAL/POLICY ISSUES

Here Comes The Sun

- DIA is showing its commitment to the environment constructing a 2 mega watt PV farm on 7.5 Acres, offsetting 5,000,000 pounds of C02 annually.

Source: wikipedia.org
THANK YOU FOR YOUR LISTENING

Questions and Comments