

Construction officially starts on Adelaide Airport terminal expansion

By **Mary Jane Pittilla** on August, 21 2018 | Airlines & Airports



The US\$120 million expansion of Adelaide Airport will see a complete refurbishment of retail areas

Construction has officially started on Adelaide Airport's A\$165 million (US\$120 million) terminal expansion, which will significantly upgrade international arrivals and departures, and create more retail and dining options for both domestic and international travelers.

On August 15, Adelaide Airport Managing Director Mark Young was joined by Watpac Construction South Australia State Manager Tim Tape to turn the first sod under the future location of the new international departures entry point.

International upgrades will include a second, longer baggage belt for arrivals, more space for emigration and immigration processing, expanded security screening, a larger duty free precinct for arrivals and departures, and expanded dining and retail options.

Gate 18 will become a permanent international gate and will be the focus of the improved retail and boarding facilities. Other international gates will continue to utilize Adelaide Airport's swing gate system to allow both international and domestic operations.

The expansion will also see a complete refurbishment of retail areas, resulting in a more than 80% increase in the overall size of the terminal's retail and dining precinct across domestic and international areas.

Other improvements include: a new, common-user premium international lounge; new VIP facilities for international arrivals and departures; relocation of the Virgin Australia Lounge; and expansion of office space for terminal tenants, including airlines and regulatory agencies.

Premium facilities for travelers

Young said the terminal expansion would ensure the airport provided the highest level of customer experience for all travelers well into the future.

“Our aim is to provide a seamless, connected experience from the time you drive into the airport until you board your aircraft, and vice versa,” Young said.

“Significant planning and years of discussions with our key partners – including airlines, retailers and regulatory agencies – has allowed us to reach the start of construction today.

“Initial construction works will largely be adjacent the existing terminal in the location of the recently demolished former international terminal building, so disruptions to our customers should be minimal.

“We’ll provide regular updates to our customers as works move into the existing terminal space. We’ve carefully planned the sequence of construction activities to help ensure our customers are still able to access facilities and move efficiently through the terminal at all times.”

Tape said Watpac was delighted to be working with Adelaide Airport to deliver a precinct that would offer premium facilities for travelers.