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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority**

### **AIRPORT CONCESSION BUSINESS ALIVE AND WELL: Starbucks Coffee, Cinnabon, Quiznos Sub and Zia Juice Coming to McGhee Tyson Airport in Summer 2009**

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.** — The Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority (MCAA) has selected Host International, Inc. (HMSHost) to provide new food and beverage concessions at McGhee Tyson Airport.

“We are thrilled to announce the addition of Starbucks Coffee, Cinnabon, Quiznos Sub, and Zia Juice as food options for the traveling public from McGhee Tyson Airport beginning in Summer 2009,” said Richard W. Krieg, Chairman of the MCAA Board of Commissioners. “These four nationally-recognized food brands will provide enormous choices to our travelers and will supplement the excellent food concessions already available at the airport.”

The new concessions will be operated by HMSHost - one of the world’s largest food, beverage and retail concessions companies in the travel industry. With over 110 years of experience, they currently operate in more than 100 airports worldwide.

“HMSHost is honored to receive the Board of Commissioners’ approval to begin service to the airport’s customers,” said Renee Tedesco, Vice President of Development for HMSHost. “We are committed to the goals the airport has set for enhancing its concessions program and believe these innovative and preferred brands will make the traveler’s day better at McGhee Tyson Airport.”

MCAA staff will begin working with HMSHost to plan, design and implement the construction of the new concessions. Located just past the airport’s security checkpoint, these new food options will allow arriving and departing passengers access to menus that offer breakfast, lunch and dinner items.

“HMSHost is a giant in the airport concession business and their interest in our airport should be a message to everyone that air travel opportunities are alive and well at McGhee Tyson Airport,” Krieg said. “The combination of Ruby Tuesday, Inc, HMSHost and The Paradies Shoppes will allow us to continue to provide unprecedented food and gift shop concession opportunities for an airport of our size. In addition, our community will benefit from the jobs created by these new concessions.”

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Airport Concession  
October 22, 2008  
Page Two

With tentative hours of operation scheduled for 5 a.m. until 8 p.m., the new concessions will be available during most peak travel times and on holidays.

“As we move through the process of bringing the concession project to reality, we look forward to working with HMSHost in providing high-quality, affordable and convenient food options,” said Krieg.

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The Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority (MKAA) is celebrating 30<sup>th</sup> years of aviation excellence in 2008. MKAA owns and operates both McGhee Tyson Airport (TYS) and Downtown Island Airport (DKX). For more information, visit [www.flyknoxville.com](http://www.flyknoxville.com).