



Syracuse Regional Airport Authority

## Media Advisory

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### Syracuse Hancock International Airport to Receive New Advanced Imaging Technology Screener at TSA Check Point

**Syracuse, New York** – Syracuse Hancock International Airport (SYR) is pleased to announce that the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will be installing an Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT) scanner at the airport's checkpoint to enhance security of passengers flying out of SYR. Installation is scheduled to begin in the evening on Tuesday November 11<sup>th</sup>.

The arrival of the AIT will decrease the amount of wait time in the TSA checkpoint and give passengers an alternate screening option. Being screened using the AIT is optional and those who wish to opt out will receive alternate screening at the checkpoint, including a thorough pat-down. Those who might be the most interested in using the AIT are passengers with joint replacements or other medical devices that would regularly alarm a walk through metal detector as they will not alarm the AIT.

AIT scanners are safe for all passengers and the technology meets national health and safety standards. AIT scanners use millimeter wave technology to detect metallic and nonmetallic threats concealed under clothing to help TSA keep travelers safe. The energy emitted by millimeter wave technology is 1000 times less than the international limits and guidelines. Further information on AIT's can be found on the TSA website at <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/advanced-imaging-technology>.

Following installation of the AIT, TSA officers at the SYR will undergo training on how to properly use the new technology. During this training period, the AIT will only be available for use intermittently until enough officers are trained that 1 male and 1 female officer is on for all shifts. At that time, the AIT will become the primary screener, however the walk through metal detectors will still be available for use in over-flow situations. After the agents complete their training, TSA will host a media event where media outlets will be invited to the airport to see the machine in action and learn how it works. This media event is tentatively scheduled for December 4, 2014.

*The Syracuse Hancock International Airport is centrally located in the heart of CNY, serving 1 million passengers annually. The Authority recognizes that the Syracuse Hancock International Airport is a gateway to the central New York region and beyond and seeks to optimize customer service and exceed customer expectations with continuous improvements to the terminal building and public-use facilities.*