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Press Release:

**Opening of the General Aviation Federal Inspection Station at Plattsburgh International Airport
Putting the International in PBG**

Plattsburgh, NY – 11/05/2019 – North Country officials recently dedicated the new U.S. Customs & Border Protection General Aviation Federal Inspection Services facility (FIS) at Plattsburgh International Airport. With the opening of this facility, Plattsburgh International Airport becomes an Airport of Entry. Planes may now be cleared for entry into the United States from other countries. This new offering puts the international in Plattsburgh International Airport.

This facility was made possible as part of the \$38 million in funding provided to the airport by Governor Cuomo through the Upstate Airport Revitalization Program.

Things to know:

- Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Outside of regular business hours; clearance may be arranged by contacting CBP. Advance notice is required for clearance services.
- Eagle Aviation, the fixed-base operator, will be able to provide fuel, car rentals, catering, pilot lounge, showers, courtesy car, conference room, overnight or long term parking, and hangar use

Buildings location:

233 Connecticut Road

Plattsburgh, NY 12903

518.324.5617

Quotes from local officials:

"This begins to truly put the international in Plattsburgh International Airport," states Garry Douglas, President of the North Country Chamber of Commerce. "We have succeeded from the start as Montreal's U.S. Airport, providing a secondary airport for our Canadian friends who in turn have made flights possible here that no one would have imagined not so long ago. And now, with the historic support of Governor Cuomo and our State Legislators, Senator Little and Assemblyman Jones, as well as longtime support in Washington from Congresswoman Stefanik and Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, another milestone has arrived, making us a GA gateway for U.S. bound planes from Canada while also allowing the airport to actively pursue international passenger services and charters. Special thanks to the Clinton County Legislature for its steadfast vision and commitment and to our friends at Customs and Border Protection for all of their collaboration. Onward and upward indeed!" - *Garry Douglas, President/CEO of the North Country Chamber of Commerce*

“The presence of U.S. Customs and Border Protection at Plattsburgh International Airport for clearance of international flights marks a new and important era at our airport. The availability of Customs will enable the County to market our airport for international passenger travel, general aviation and air cargo. We are excited about this new opportunity and the positive impact we expect it will have for expansion of activity at Plattsburgh International.” - *Clinton County Legislator Harry J. McManus, Chairperson*

This marks another huge milestone for the Plattsburgh International Airport to providing direct access to the Greater Plattsburgh region. With numerous international companies having their North American presence in Town this is welcome addition by many. We continue to see the airport campus transform. Special thanks to Governor Cuomo, Senator Little, Assemblyman Jones, members of the County Legislature both past and present for their vision as well investments. – *Michael Cashman, Town of Plattsburgh Supervisor*

"In addition to securing the borders, U.S. Customs and Border Protection is charged with facilitating lawful trade and travel" said Champlain Area Port Director Steven Bronson. "CBP worked closely with the stakeholders, and this new state-of-the-art facility is ready to welcome international travelers to the Plattsburgh International Airport." - *Steve Bronson, Area Port Director - Champlain, NY, U.S. Customs and Border Protection*

“I am thrilled that the Plattsburgh Airport is expanding its services with the addition of the General Aviation Customs Facility,” said Congresswoman Stefanik. “This is a great opportunity for Plattsburgh to welcome private international flights, which will increase tourism and boost our local economy. I applaud the Plattsburgh International Airport for this expansion and am proud to be an advocate for real results in our district.” – *Representative Elise Stefanik, Representative for New York's 21st congressional district*

Speaking Order in accompanying Video

- Garry Douglas – President/CEO North Country Chamber of Commerce
- Harry McManus – Chair, Clinton County Legislature
- Steve Bronson – Area Port Director of Champlain, US Border & Customs Protection
- Michael Cashman – Town Supervisor for the Town of Plattsburgh
- James McKenna - President/CEO of Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism (Lake Placid/Adirondacks)

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About Plattsburgh International Airport

Created from the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Plattsburgh International Airport (PBG) is the first private sector redevelopment success story among the military base closures in the 1990s. Owned and operated by the Clinton County Government, Plattsburgh International Airport is a multi-purpose aviation and aerospace complex sitting on more than 5,000 acres. With the addition of a state-of-the art passenger terminal, the airport serves residents of northern New York, southern Quebec and Vermont. For more information on Plattsburgh International Airport, please call 518.563.1000 or visit flyplattsburgh.com.