

# **LAX Community Noise Roundtable**

Aviation Noise News Update  
May 11, 2011



# SMO Change in Takeoff Routes

- **L.A. City Council seeks change in takeoff routes at Santa Monica Airport**
  - Council members voted to support federal legislation that would close six flight schools and alter the current departure route that crosses Penmar Golf Course and directs aircraft out over Venice Beach
  - The Council's 11-0 vote revolved around concerns of public safety and aircraft emissions
  - The resolution is not binding on Santa Monica or the FAA, but to what many believe a broader strategy to shut the Airport down by 2015
  - FAA officials and Airport supporters responded by saying "...the Airport has a good safety record, and that any effort to oust the flight schools and shut down the Airport in four years could violate various federal agreements"

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-airport-20110421,0,6433857.story>

# Boeing 787's Quiet Technology Put to Test

- **The 787's Noise Footprint will be as much as 60% Smaller than Today's Comparable Airplanes**
- **A dedicated team sat down years ago to design the aircraft quieter from tip to tail**
- **The bulk of the noise reduction stems from the new Rolls Royce engines and the composite Airframe and Aerodynamic Wing**
  - New generation engines with very high bypass-ratios
  - Advanced acoustic linings
  - New engine inlets and nozzles
  - Lightweight composite materials
  - New aerodynamic wing
  - “We have to publish numbers to the one-tenth of a decibel...where the human ear can't hear the difference.” says noise engineer Mark Sandstrom
  - [Boeing 787 Noise Video](#)

# NASA: Greener Airliner Achievable By 2025

- **NASA's Environmentally Responsible Aviation (ERA) program is exploring a suite of airframe and propulsion technologies that could be ready for full-scale development around 2020**
- **What sets apart NASA ERA program is that several aspects are expected to be met at the same time that include:**
  - **Fuel-burn reduction of 50% relative to current state-of-the-art aircraft**
  - **75% cut in oxides of nitrogen (NOx) below current standard**
  - **An aircraft noise level 42 dB below the FAA's Stage 4 certification level**
- **The targets are tough because, NASA believes, without major improvements the growth of air transport will be actively impeded by environmental and related cost concerns**
- **Noise reduction is being accomplished across three fronts including airframe, propulsion, and combined propulsion-airframe aeroacoustics. The main noise reduction will come from more advanced flaps and slats and faired main landing gear**



# Global Air Traffic Slows

- International airline passenger traffic slowed in March to 3.8 percent as opposed to 5.8 percent in February
- International freight traffic grew in March to 3.7 percent from 1.8 percent in February
- North American carriers experienced a 7.7 percent improvement in March
- International Air Transport Association (IATA) believes the second quarter will likely see continued depressed air travel markets due to the events in Japan, Middle East, and North Africa, but “...strong underlining economic growth trends should support recovery in both passenger and cargo markets in the second half of 2011.” IATA said
- Despite the effects of rising fuel prices, airline passenger traffic slightly increased at LAX. More than 4.9 million passengers passed through LAX in March, a 2.9 percent increase from the same period last year

# FAA Restructures ATC Management

- **FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt has appointed three veteran managers to key positions to evaluate system safety**
- **The review also includes an independent panel to evaluate the agency's ATC training curriculum, qualifications, and placement process**
- **The restructure "...is an effort to make certain that operational policies and professional standards are being upheld, Babbitt said, "The FAA's focus is safety. These changes ensure that we have the right people in the right places to help us carry out our mission"**
- **The National Air Traffic Control Association (NATCA) also made 12 recommendations with the primary focus on an awareness program for fatigue and sleep disorders, but also request recuperation periods for controllers while on duty**

# Chamber Wants Congress to Fund Airline Equip. For NextGen

- **U.S. Chamber of Commerce (COC) wants the FAA Reauthorization Bill to include Government aid to assist the aviation community with the estimate \$5 Billion cost of equipping aircraft for NextGen**
- **U.S. COC Pres. and CEO Thomas Donohue said, “We don’t think that cargo, business, or passenger aviation should have to bear the full brunt of this cost when there is such a great public benefit from NextGen”**
- **The COC believes that the Airport Improvement Program needs adequate funding levels to maintain, modernize, and expand our airports which are a crown jewel of our economy**

# Airport Cooperative Research Program FY 2012 Program

- **ACRP is expected to release potential problem statements for research, for its FY 2012 program, in mid-June 2011**
- **ACRP is an applied, contract research program**
- **ACRP main objective is to develop near-term solutions for issues facing airport operators**
- **Program is sponsored by the FAA and managed through the Transportation Research Board**

