

## PRESS RELEASE

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FAIRBANKS, Alaska – Fairbanks International Airport is one of the world’s “9 Beautiful New Airport Terminals,” according to *The Atlantic Cities* magazine.

*The Atlantic Cities*, which covers innovations and issues in global cities, recently showcased nine airports that “stand out as some of the best a traveler could experience.”

Fairbanks International received numerous design awards and international press in the design community. But this new recognition comes from the traveling public, which is a pleasant surprise to the design team.

“The airport was designed to accommodate our growth in international visitors and make visitor information a focal point of the airport experience,” said Deb Hickock, CEO and President of the Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau. “We wanted the airport to be distinctively Fairbanks and rustic. It was being designed at the same time as the Morris Thompson Visitor Center with Bettisworth North. The team made conscientious efforts to link the two facilities, so visitors would get that thoughtful connection.”

Completed in 2009, the airport renovation and addition integrates efficient passenger facilities and airport operations with the visitor experience, using local materials in unique ways to give visitors a glimpse of the character of the area’s environment.

“The idea was always to have a gateway, the visitor’s first impression that truly reflected the frontier spirit of Fairbanks, that when you arrived here, you knew you had arrived in the far north, with its wonderful light, broad landscapes, wilderness...adventure land,” said Charles Bettisworth, Principal Architect on the project. “I often get comments from friends who haven’t been to Fairbanks in years. They arrive thinking they landed in the wrong place, and are very pleasantly surprised with the quality of the terminal.”

Bettisworth attributes the project’s success to the project team and the community, particularly the support of the airport’s management and engineering staff.

“It’s amazing what can be done when a team comes together. Hats off to Bettisworth for the world recognizing what we locally already knew,” said Jesse VanderZanden, Airport Manager. ###

Links: <http://www.theatlanticcities.com/design/2011/12/9-beautiful-new-airport-terminals/618/>  
[www.bettisworthnorth.com/portfolio/index.html#](http://www.bettisworthnorth.com/portfolio/index.html#)  
<http://www.dot.state.ak.us/faiiap/index.shtml>

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Info: Bettisworth North Architects and Planners, Inc. celebrates 35 years of architecture in Alaska, providing architectural design, landscape architecture, interior design, and planning. The award-winning firm has 30 employees in Fairbanks and Anchorage.