

MEDIA RELEASE

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Chicago Rockford airport sees passenger boost in May *Sixth-straight month of growth at RFD*

ROCKFORD, III. – Chicago Rockford International Airport (RFD) saw a 12 percent increase in passengers in May, the sixth-straight month of year-over-year growth.

In May 2011, 12,493 passengers flew in and out of RFD, compared with 11,145 in May 2010. RFD saw increases to most of its world-class destinations, particularly Cancun and Orlando. This May, Apple Vacations added new flights to Cancun and Allegiant offered more seats to Orlando.

For the year to date, 96,189 passengers have flown in and out of RFD. That's up nearly 23 percent over this time last year. On average, flights to and from RFD have been 89 percent full this year.

"Our success this spring, especially with a popular international destination like Cancun, will give us opportunities for more success in the future," said Bharat Puri, chairman of the Greater Rockford Airport Authority Board of Commissioners. "We look forward to more growth with our posted summer schedule, as well as a strong winter schedule when it is fully published."

Apple continues its growth at RFD with weekly Cancun flights through June. Then, Apple returns to RFD in late December with service both to Cancun and Punta Cana, a popular resort destination in the Dominican Republic.

"We continue to prove that the more flights we can offer at RFD, the more passengers we get to fill them," Puri said. "We welcome both those who used RFD for the first time in May and those who are return customers. We expect even more return customers!"

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