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CONTACT:

Gainesville Regional Airport

Elaine C. Funk, Public Relations

Ph: (352) 373-0249

Email: elaine.funk@flygainesville.com

**GAINESVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT'S PRIMARY RUNWAY SCHEDULED TO
OPEN ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**

Gainesville, FL – August 30, 2004 3:00 p.m. – A ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place on Thursday, September 2, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. at Gainesville Regional Airport to celebrate the opening of the Airport's primary runway. Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the Airport's primary runway will be opened to all air traffic. The reopening of the runway, which will be renumbered Runway 11-29, will mean the resumption of regional jet flights. The first regional jet flight scheduled to arrive is Delta flight # 4413 at 9:47 a.m.

Local City and County officials, as well as members of the Gainesville - Alachua County Regional Airport Authority, are anticipated to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Despite frequent rain, the construction contractor, APAC-Southeast, Inc., Gainesville, FL, has remained on schedule to finish the project on time. The rehabilitation project included milling off certain areas of asphalt from the 7,503-foot long, 150-foot wide primary runway, and replacing the surface with 3 to 10 inches of new asphalt. Under an accelerated schedule, designed to avoid inconvenience to passengers, construction crews worked around the clock to complete the job.

Any media interested in touring the rehabilitated runway can meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Airport's Administration Office.

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