



Princess Juliana  
International Airport

# THE SXM AIRPORT

## HORIZON

NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 2019

75<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

Former Chief Commercial Officer (CCO) of TelEm Group Brian Mingo has been appointed by the Supervisory Board of Directors of the Princess Juliana International Airport Operating company, PJIAE N.V. to the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) effective as of January 7 for a period of five years.

As the new Chief Executive Officer Mingo brings to SXM Airport over 20 years of local and international executive experience and an combination of senior management, business development, operations, customer service and project, change management expertise. Mingo also has a Masters in Logistics from the UK.

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(L) Brian Mingo, Newly appointed Chief Executive Officer, Princess Juliana International Airport, during a walk-through tour with Michel Hyman, Chief Operations Officer (R)

## MINGO APPOINTED AS PJIAE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER - COMPLETES MANAGING BOARD

Prior to his position at TelEm Group of Companies, Mingo held the position of General Manager at TelCell where he developed and implemented the mobile network infrastructure and its business as a start-up.

As CEO, Mingo will assume overall leadership in the strategic planning, operations and financial performance of the airport together with its Managing Board, Ravi Daryanani Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Michel Hyman (COO).

"During this time of reconstruction and transformation, Brian Mingo is the right candidate," said Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Directors Alex Dijkhoff on Sunday. The entire Supervisory Board of Directors are impressed with the value that he will bring to the SXM Airport.

"Brian has vast experience in building and growing large organizations. He is a proven leader with a clear business vision, project management skills and the ability to bring

people together. His vision on how the airport needs to be transformed and experience around the world is exactly what SXM Airport needs as the company enters a critical period for the regrowth of St. Maarten," Dijkhoff added.

"It is not an easy task to undertake at this time, especially seeing what PJIAE went through, we are confident that with the team now completed with the appointment of a new CEO, we can meet the set objectives and strategic targets," stated the board chairman..



On the first day on the job, Mingo made it a priority to reach out to the airport community and personally introduced himself during a walk-through tour with the Chief Operations Officer, Michel Hyman. The walk-through tour included visits to the Air Traffic Control tower, Rescue and Firefighting Department, Operations tower, airlines and handler's offices and the SXM Airport sub offices.





# SXM AIRPORT KICKS OFF 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WITH RETURN TO TERMINAL BUILDING

Although December 3rd, 2018 was the actual date of the 75th anniversary of the Princess Juliana International Airport, the celebrations were however, deferred to two weeks later to coincide with the official migration of arrival and departure operations back inside the Terminal Building since Hurricane Irma wreaked havoc on the island on September 6th, 2017, causing extensive damage to the building.

The ceremony was attended by several dignitaries including Governor Eugene Holiday, himself a former president of the airport, and Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport and Telecommunications, Honorable Stuart Johnson, who is also the Shareholder's Representative of PJIAE N.V., the operating company of the airport.

In his address, Minister Johnson congratulated the Board, Management and Staff of the airport. He referred to the importance of the airport not only to the island's economy but also as a leading hub in the Caribbean and cited the many awards it had received over the years preceding Hurricane Irma. He added that these were clear indications that it wasn't impossible to bounce back to the envious position SXM Airport occupied prior to the monstrous storms that inflicted severe damages on it in September 2017.

Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Directors, Mr. Alex Dijkhoffz, also extended congratulatory messages

to the Management and staff of the airport while acknowledging the challenges ahead. In his own remarks, the acting CEO and CFO, Mr. Ravi Daryanani said the "double whammy of Irma and Maria not only destroyed our award-winning airport – named the best in the Caribbean just the year before the storms – but also put a grinding stop to several capital improvement projects that were underway or in an advanced stage of planning."

"In actual fact," he continued, "the completion of Package 1 - Temporary Operations of the reconstruction project is what we are celebrating today. It includes the roofing project that is now in its finishing stages. I am proud to say that the new roof over our heads is not only state of the art but has been rebuilt to be able to sustain 185 miles per hour hurricane force winds. It is therefore perhaps the strongest of its kind anywhere in the region." "Where do we go from here?" he asked.

"The current advertising spot we have starts with



the line, 'As the eagle soars above the storms, so does SXM Airport soar above adversity.' That is, indeed, true. Eagles seek new frontiers. They also have a long-term vision and commitment. Our airport, your airport, has adopted those characteristics of the eagle. As we mark our 75th anniversary, we invite you to fly with us above the storms. We are not yet at cruising heights yet, but we will get there. Princess Juliana International Airport will be back where it belongs – at the very top of the aviation ladder in the Caribbean and beyond," he concluded.

The Chief Operations Officer, Michel Hyman, also addressed the gathering. After pointing out some of the challenges the airport faced in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, he revealed that "most of the legacy airlines have returned to service the destination with the ramp-up of flights, making the peak tourist season which began just a few days ago to look quite bright."



According to Hyman, "Long-haul flight frequency in the first quarter of 2019 will be at 81% of what it was in 2017, culminating in March 2019 at 98% of the level it was for the same month in 2017."

The event also saw the presentation of a video promo of the "Aviation Legends of the Princess Juliana International Airport," a series of interviews with those who actively created the history of the airport in the last 75 years. The anniversary celebrations will continue through the new year.







## ST. MAARTEN WELCOMES CELEBRITY CRUISE THE EDGE

The Port of St. Maarten hosted yet another inaugural ceremony of one of the latest Celebrity Cruises, the Edge, which docked at the harbor on December 20, 2018. Celebrity Edge is the first Edge-class cruise ship operated by Celebrity Cruises. Celebrity Edge was constructed at the STX shipyard in France. The

modern luxury cruise vessel was delivered to Celebrity Cruises on October 31, 2018, and her maiden voyage was on December 9, 2018.

Following the plaque exchange ceremony, the delegation was given a tour of the Eden. It's a space where nature is so present, and called "a

room that lives." The Celebrity Edge theatre also features a four-stage area and an ever-changing canvas for its productions. With rotating spiral staircases, 18 synchronized projectors, aerial rigging, and more, the behind the scenes technology in the theatre is ultra-modern.



## DISMANTLING OF THE PAVILIONS COMPLETED

The Facilities Maintenance department spearheaded the dismantling of the temporary Arrival and Departure pavilions at the airside of the Terminal Building. The Pavilions were used to service passengers after the massive hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017.

Event Star company based in Miami, Florida are the owners of the Pavilions. The company flew in a team to finalize and manage the dismantling process in December 2018, following the migration into the Terminal Building.

Departing Passengers used the temporary Departure Pavilion, which offered a much improved experience than the makeshift tent village which was erected post-Irma. The Departure Pavilion was officially inaugurated on Friday, February 9, 2018. The Pavilions offered the full Operations services and was fully air-conditioned, carpeted and featured both retail and F&B concessions.

Just over a month following the opening of the Temporary Departure Pavilion, the airport added a Temporary Arrival Pavilion which became operational on March 23, 2018.



(l) Mirto Breell, Director of Technical Division and (r) Rob Noonan, Project Manager

The Arrival Pavilion was erected adjacent to the Departure Pavilion, to centralize the traffic flow in the common public parking area. Passengers cleared the Immigration and Customs process upon arrival on the island. The premises also housed the police (Alpha Team).

The dismantling of the Pavilions freed up additional space for the parking of the corporate jets during the holiday season.





## CORPORATE JETS AT SXM AIRPORT FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON



*Employees of ExecuJet and Menzies Aviation*



*The Arrindell Aviation by Signature Team.*

The lifestyle of the rich and famous was center stage during the holidays as luxurious private jets were strategically parked at the tarmac of the Princess Juliana international airport (SXM) from December 2018 to January 2019.

Corporate jets which included 777's, 737's and more filled the parking zones near the terminal building. The airport serves as a hubespe-

cially for Anguilla and St. Barths where celebrities and billionaires came to spend the holidays.

According to the Management of the Operations Department, there was a recorded total of 947 movements during the month of December 2018, which was directly impacted by the corporate jets. There was approximately

473 landings and take-offs.

The Management Board commended all stakeholders who contributed to the successful holiday season and stated that the airport is moving forward with the remodeling of the existing Fixed Base Operations.

PHOTOS COURTESY: Ambient Digital Services





## Hotel Update: THE SECRETS HOTEL

The Secrets Hotel is located in Anse Marcel, the new AMResorts project will be a huge addition to St. Martin with an adults-only, 350-room resort located on one of the beautiful beaches on the island and will include swim out suites. Secrets is claimed to feature the largest swimming pool in the Caribbean.



## CONCESSIONS TAKING SHAPE AT THE SXM AIRPORT







## AIR TRANSAT RETURNS TO SXM AIRPORT

The 2018 World's Best Leisure Airline, Air Transat, returned to the Princess Juliana International Airport (SXM) on December 22, 2018. The landing was quite spectacular and hard to miss, as a yellow and navy branded aircraft touched down with a water cannon salute given by the Rescue and Firefighting Department.

Air Transat will serve Montreal and Toronto, Canada with weekly flights to St. Maarten. The passengers and crew enjoyed the warm welcome by a delegation which included the honorable Minister of Tourism, Stuart Johnson, First Vice President of St. Martin, Valerie Dama-seau, Director of the St. Maarten Tourist Office, May - Ling Chun, Director of French St. Martin Tourist Office, Aida Weinum, and representa-

tives of the Juliana Airport Handlers and SXM Airport.

The Regional Manager of Air Transat, Evelyn Munoz expressed gratitude for the warm welcome. She assured everyone that bookings on the Air Transat flights can be made at most of the local travel agencies and online.



*The airport community at the FOD walk in 2018*

## OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT HOSTS F.O.D WORKSHOP

The Princess Juliana International Airport (SXM) extended an invitation to the airport community to take part in its FOD workshop. This workshop is usually held in June but since the passing of Hurricane Irma, SXM Airport was unable to carry out any FOD workshops due to limited facilities.

The intent of the FOD awareness program is to provide information and guidelines for the prevention of Foreign Object Damage at SXM Airport. Moreover, it is mandatory that all employees working at the air-side (which is considered a sensitive work area) must participate in the FOD walks and information sessions.



**SAVE THE DATES**  
FEB 28TH - MARCH 3RD 2019

## UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS HEINEKEN REGATTA 2019 AND FRENCH ST. MARTIN CARNIVAL 2019



**SAVE THE DATES**  
FEB 17TH - MARCH 6TH 2019



# SPECTACULAR TAKEOFF AT SXM AIRPORT

MICHEAL JORDAN'S PRIVATE JET DEPARTING  
THE PRINCESS JULIANA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



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PHOTO COURTESY: Ambient Digital Services

## SXM AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING ROOFING UPDATE

- Phase 1 – Install waterproofing layer
- Phase 2 – Omega profiles, installation of the riverclack roof sheet
- Phase 3 – Bull noses and soffits

Phase 1 - Started March 6, 2018 completed on July 5, 2018

Phase 2 - Started mid August, 2018

Phase 3 - Installation will began in January 2019

### **Phase 2:**

- Steel profiles for the roof structure are 100% installed
- Insulation for roof is 100% on site.
- Coils for riverclack sheeting are partly on site (90%).
- Production of riverclack sheets are (61%).
- Installation of riverclack sheets are (12%)
- Riverclack roof sheet roof sheet forming machine is on site.
- Riverclack containers installation on November 24, 2018.



*The Riverclack standing seam metal roof system has been on the market for nearly 30 years now and has proven itself in some of the world's most challenging climate conditions.*

### **Phase 3:**

Soffits and bull noses are manufactured, and the rest will be here in February 2019.



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# 2019

*happy new year*

From the Supervisory Board of Directors, Managing Board  
and Staff of the Princess Juliana International Airport



Princess Juliana  
International Airport

The EXPERIENCE Will Move You



## TRAVEL TIPS WHEN VISITING ST. MAARTEN

- Most definitely and very important for visitors to always pay attention to the validity of their Travel Documents (this is #1).
- Know where they are staying on SXM, if transferring, where to.
- Being in possession of an onward ticket.
- If traveling with kids not belonging to one, to have a consent letter from the parent(s) or guardian(s).
- The traveler is to remember that he/she is responsible for research of the entry requirements into SXM and for having all necessary entry requirements in their possessions as stipulated by law.