



HUNTSVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

INTERNATIONAL INTERMODAL CENTER

JETPLEX INDUSTRIAL PARK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Panalpina Marks 20 Years of Operations at Huntsville International Airport**

*Southern-style celebration honors Dixie Jet*

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala., September 15, 2010** – Panalpina today celebrated 20 years of “Dixie Jet” operations at Huntsville International Airport with a Southern-style “high cotton” barbeque hosted by the Airport and Panalpina at its International Intermodal Center. The Dixie Jet, appropriately named, is an Atlas B747-400 freighter with non-stop international service five times weekly between Huntsville and Luxembourg as well as Huntsville to Mexico. Today marks 20 years of consecutive flying, which is a remarkably long time for a single transatlantic cargo service, in spite of economic downturns and fundamental security and procedural changes in the aviation industry.

According to Lucas Kuehner, Managing Director, Panalpina USA, "In Huntsville, we are given first-class service, be it by the airport authority or the local customs office. From the very first flight 20 years ago until today, the Dixie Jet has been a major contributor to our global display of cargo transports."

Rick Tucker, Executive Director, Huntsville International Airport, agrees that providing non-stop customer service and tailoring the business to meet the needs of Panalpina and all of the Center's tenants are key to the success of the Center's operations. "This 20-year milestone is a tribute to those visionaries within our organization and Panalpina that believed in taking a chance that has proven successful two decades later. Our relationship with Panalpina has always been viewed as a true partnership and one in which I expect to continue for many more decades to come."

"The 'high cotton' barbeque theme is extremely fitting to celebrate the success of Panalpina and its Dixie Jet operations," stated Bill Johnston, Jr., Chairman, Board of Directors, Huntsville International Airport. "In the South, to state that something is 'high cotton' is akin to the early days of cotton farming when a successful crop produced bountiful cotton high on the stalks. Panalpina's operation over the last 20 years in Huntsville has yielded this same success."

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**NEWS RELEASE**