

MEDIA RELEASE

SWISSPORT TO OPEN ITS FIRST ASPIRE LOUNGE IN AUSTRALIA

Swissport International is developing its lounge business in the Asia-Pacific region. The first lounge under the Aspire brand will open at Perth Airport in Western Australia mid next year.

Swissport International is introducing its Aspire lounge brand in Australia with the opening of its most modern airport lounge at Perth Airport (PER). The Swiss market leader for airport ground services and air cargo handling will develop the new premium departure lounge in close partnership with Perth Airport. The opening is planned for mid-2020.

“We are delighted to open our first premium lounge at Perth Airport bringing our Aspire brand to Australia for the first time”, says Shaun Weston, Swissport’s Vice President Global Lounges at Swissport International. “In Perth, our guests will have a perfect start to their travel experience with panoramic views of the airfield and the city skyline.”

The lounge will be built in the airport’s former control centre and a part of the observation deck, transforming it into a dedicated space for passengers to unwind before embarking on their journey. It will be located on level 3 of terminal T1 International, connected to the international departures area and close to boarding gates. The new Aspire lounge will offer comfortable seating and a relaxing atmosphere for 140 guests set within 530 square meters of space. Guests will enjoy unique and exciting food and drink options, adjusted seasonally, with small, local suppliers bringing a taste of Western Australia. The food offer will include a variety of vegetarian and vegan choices and will be available throughout the day.

Perth Airport CEO Kevin Brown said the new lounge is part of a wave of investment to take the airport into the future, providing the amenity and efficiency to deliver passengers a seamless, quality travel experience. “International travellers from Perth Airport have never had this option - but the wait will be more than worth it. We believe this will be the best lounge of its type in Australia,” says Brown.

As part of their airport ground services Swissport manages 40 lounges at more than 27 airports in 11 countries across the globe under its hospitality brand Aspire Lounges, welcoming guests irrespective of airline or class of travel and offers amenities that ensure each stay is rewarding.

Among others, Swissport operates Aspire lounges at the airports of Amsterdam, Calgary, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Johannesburg, London Gatwick, London Heathrow, Manchester, Montreal, Nairobi and Zurich. Last year, Swissport welcomed over five million passengers across their global Aspire lounge network. Over the coming five years, Swissport plans to further grow its hospitality business significantly.

In 2018, Swissport International AG provided best-in-class airport ground services for some 282 million airline passengers and handled roughly 4.8 million tons of air freight in 115 cargo warehouses worldwide. Several of its warehouses have been certified for pharmaceutical logistics by IATA’s CEIV. The world’s leader in airport ground services and air cargo handling, with 66,000 employees, achieved consolidated operating revenue of 2.99 billion euros in 2018. At the end of June 2019, Swissport was active at 310 airports in 49 countries on six continents.

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In Australia and New Zealand, Swissport offers ground handling services at 32 airports, partnering with all major domestic airlines and many international carriers in the region. In addition, Swissport has extensive experience operating lounges in Australia on behalf of airlines such as Virgin Australia and Qantas.

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