

Zurich, 24 January 2025

**MEDIA RELEASE****ASPIRE EXECUTIVE LOUNGES OPENS CO-BRANDED AIRPORT LOUNGE IN HELSINKI WITH OP FINANCIAL GROUP**

Swissport's hospitality brand Aspire Executive Lounges has opened its latest airport lounge at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport. The "OP Lounge by Aspire" has been designed and co-branded with Finnish OP Financial Group to harmoniously blend the distinctive elements of both brands.

Aspire Executive Lounges, the hospitality brand of Swissport International, has opened its latest airport lounge at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport, in conjunction with OP Financial Group, a provider for financial services headquartered in Finland. This marks the first time Aspire Executive Lounges has developed and designed an airport lounge in Europe for a customer outside the aviation industry. The new "OP Lounge by Aspire" will be accessible to OP cardholders with an OP Gold or OP Platinum card product, and soon also for status customers of contracted airlines that do not operate their own lounges at the airport. Following the opening, Aspire Executive Lounges will renovate its existing airport lounge in Helsinki, which is scheduled to re-open at the end of April 2025.

"We are thrilled to collaborate with OP Financial Group to bring a fresh lounge experience to their customers and travelers at Helsinki Airport," says Dirk Goovaerts, CEO of Continental Europe, Middle East, Africa & India, and Global Cargo Chair of Swissport International. "Our partnership demonstrates that our expertise in airport lounge hospitality also appeals to companies outside the aviation industry who aim to include an extraordinary pre-flight experience in their customer journey, leaving a lasting impression."

Located in the Schengen area near gate 22, the new lounge offers travelers a comfortable retreat with 180 seats across 810 m<sup>2</sup>, including features such as private meeting rooms for those wishing to catch up on business while travelling. The design beautifully blends Finnish spring blooms and lush greenery, creating a truly relaxing environment. With an emphasis on Finnish culinary traditions, the food and beverage options include everything from a warm breakfast selection to seasonal lunch dishes made with locally sourced ingredients. Whether guests are looking to work, unwind, or enjoy a premium dining experience, the space is designed to cater to every need and elevate the airport experience.

"At OP, we have invested significantly in the development of our card services in recent years. In particular, the travel insurance and lounge services included in the cards have been widely used and appreciated by our customers. We want to offer additional value and convenience to our cardholders when traveling," says Masa Peura, Director of Everyday Banking Services at OP. "With the 'OP Lounge by Aspire', we can have a positive

Zurich, 24 January 2025

impact on the travel experience of our customers."

Ulla Serlenius, Finavia's SVP, Helsinki Airport, adds: "We are delighted to welcome 'OP Lounge by Aspire' to Helsinki Airport! In the airport industry, we see a global trend in growing popularity of lounge areas and services among travelers, and we have also invested in this at Helsinki Airport. Located in the most central area of the terminal, with great connections to the gates and services, the OP Lounge is a great addition to the lounges, offering world-class passenger experience at Helsinki Airport."

Aspire Executive Lounges is one of the world's largest brands in the airport hospitality sector, welcoming more than six million guests per year who can choose from a growing network of nearly 100 lounges. Over 20 lounges were added in 2024, and a significant pipeline of additional locations is planned for the next two years.

"For many years, Swissport has been a key player at Helsinki Airport across various business units. We provide aircraft fueling, manage two modern air cargo warehouses, and serve cargo freighters, underscoring our integral role at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport since 2011," adds Goovaerts. "As the sole commercial lounge provider in the Schengen area, we are excited to continue delivering exceptional services in two newly designed spaces in Helsinki and to further expand our hospitality business across Europe and beyond."

In 2023, Swissport International AG provided best-in-class airport ground services for some 232 million airline passengers (2022: 186 million) and handled roughly 4.7 million tons of air freight (2022: 4.8 million) at 115 air cargo centers worldwide. Several of its warehouses have been certified for pharmaceutical logistics by IATA's CEIV Pharma and by the British MHRA. At the end of December 2023, the world's leader in airport ground services and air cargo handling, with currently around 60,000 employees, was active at 286 airports in 44 countries on six continents.

#### Media contacts

Swissport International AG, Group Communications, Maria Künzi, P.O. Box, 8058 Zurich Airport, Switzerland  
media@swissport.com, +41 43 815 00 22