



Toronto, 03 November 2022

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## NEW ASPIRE LOUNGE AT TORONTO CITY AIRPORT

Swissport is set to open a new ASPIRE Lounge at Toronto City Airport (YTZ) in early 2023. The lounge aims to extend the vibrancy of downtown Toronto to the airport located on the Toronto Islands. It will be the tenth lounge in North America following the recent opening of three new lounges in California, U.S.A., this year.

Swissport is continuing the global expansion of its airport lounge business. With the new lounge at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, Swissport's global network of lounges increases to 65 locations. The ASPIRE Lounge brand has steadily increased its global visibility and is now one of the leading independent airport lounge operators across the globe.

The new Toronto lounge is set to be the first LEED-certified lounge in Swissport's network, which denotes it meets today's standards for sustainable design, construction and operation. Completely bespoke, the interior design takes inspiration from downtown Toronto and will feature an array of suspended and integrated light fixtures to reflect the city's cosmopolitan landscape. The 4,271 square feet space will seat 133 guests and combines wood-textured furniture, quartz countertops, and custom partitions with greenery to deliver an experience that is at once bold, sophisticated, and timeless.

"We are thrilled to be awarded the operation of a brand-new lounge at Toronto City Airport following a competitive tender process by Nieuport Aviation," says Nick Ames, Head of Lounges North America. "The airport is truly one-of-a-kind, serving the downtown area with 'efficiency' at its heart. Our aim is to mirror this goal by offering an exceptional and efficient pre-flight experience to those departing the city."

"Being at the heart of Toronto's downtown and part of the incredible waterfront community makes this airport unique," says Neil Pakey, President and CEO of Nieuport Aviation. "We always look to further enhance our sense of place at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport and in partnering with Swissport we can now offer a bespoke airport lounge that further enhances our terminal and the overall passenger experience. We are thrilled to see the new ASPIRE Lounge soon open its doors and we know it will exceed our passenger's expectations."

Beyond its elegant spaces to relax - complete with an art collection from local Ontario-based artists - the new ASPIRE Lounge at Toronto City Airport will offer a high-end hot and cold culinary selection and a wide choice of beverages including local wines, beers, and spirits. Fresh croissants, pastries and breads baked on the day will be another culinary delight guests will appreciate. And for passengers short on time, a comprehensive ASPIRE-To-Go takeaway menu will be a truly unique offering. For business travelers, the lounge's walls, tables, and counters are fitted with multiple electrical outlets, USB ports, and NFC chargers for convenient charging on the go. In addition, a meeting room and private work room will be available.







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The ASPIRE Lounge at Toronto City Airport will join a rapidly growing list of 64 Swissport lounges at 38 airports worldwide that altogether welcome more than seven million passengers per year. The lounge will be the sixth lounge in Canada, where Swissport currently operates five other lounges: two ASPIRE Lounges in Calgary, two lounges in Montreal, and one ASPIRE Lounge in Ottawa.

In 2021, Swissport International AG provided best-in-class airport ground services for some 97 million airline passengers (pre-COVID 2019: 265 million) and handled roughly 5.1 million tons of air freight (2019: 4.6 million) at over 120 air cargo centers worldwide. Several of its warehouses have been certified for pharmaceutical logistics by IATA's CEIV Pharma and by the British MHRA. The world's leader in airport ground services and air cargo handling, with currently around 48,000 employees, was active at 287 airports in 45 countries on six continents as of 14 July 2022.

## Media contacts

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