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Making Connections Forum held at CLE

Cleveland, May 5th, 2017 – Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE) in a collaborative effort with Airmall Cleveland hosted a business opportunities forum at the airport on Thursday. The “Making Connections” gathering was held to provide Cleveland area minority business owners with key information on taking advantage of concession opportunities at CLE.

Representatives from 11 local restaurants and retail shops were given information about the unique aspects of operating in an airport environment and gained information on the City of Cleveland’s economic development programs. The informational session also included a first-hand account from one of the airport’s most successful entrepreneurs, Curtis English with Cleveland Shines; a look at airport concession opportunities; and a tour of the terminals at CLE.

“It was a meaningful program and a necessary outreach to encourage Cleveland entrepreneurs to take a look at airport opportunities. In my 25+ years as a business owner and partner, I’ve seen this airport evolve in a new and exciting direction. Local businesses will have the opportunity to bring new concepts to CLE which will introduce the local flavor of our amazing city,” said Mr. English.

Several opportunities and future concepts were identified to introduce local businesses’ products into the airport program. Cleveland Airport System’s (CAS) Office of Compliance and Inclusion, Airmall and local businesses will help provide advice and consul to the concession hopefuls with building their organizations to further contribute to our thriving business community.

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“The Cleveland Airport System is committed to diversity and ensuring that all persons have access to participate in Airport opportunities. The “Making Connections” program is just one of the avenues we utilized to demonstrate our commitments to the communities we serve,” said Airport Director Robert Kennedy.

Interested concession prospects should contact Shelli Lewis with Airmall Cleveland at 216-265-0747.

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