

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sangster International Airport Remains Safe for Operations

Montego Bay, Jamaica – 27 August 2024

MBJ Airports Limited, the operator of Sangster International Airport (“SIA”) in Montego Bay, Jamaica, assures the public and all stakeholders of the airport’s safety following the recent temporary closure of the runway.

MBJ has always been committed to maintaining high standards of security and safety in its operations which includes stringent maintenance and safety protocols, especially as it relates to the runway.

To ensure the runway is well maintained, in addition to preventative and emergency maintenance required from time to time, the following major work has been carried out on the runway over the years.

- Runway Rehabilitation work completed in 2013;
- In 2018, \$26M was invested to resurface the taxiways, shoulder and ramps;
- Between 2021 and 2023, US \$70 million was expended on the Runway Extension and Associated Works project. This work has significantly advanced the aviation capabilities and safety standards at SIA, Jamaica’s busiest airport.

There are currently no operational issues at SIA impacting the safety of the runway or any other major infrastructure. As per standard operating procedures, regular assessment is carried out on all components on schedule; however, unforeseen issues may occur. In all operational matters, safety remains our foremost consideration.

Ensuring the safety and well-being of our passengers and staff remains our utmost priority. In situations requiring assessment, MBJ may briefly suspend activities as a precautionary measure and implement all necessary safeguards to facilitate a prompt and safe resumption of services, as demonstrated during the incident on Sunday, August 25, 2024.

The Runway at SIA is compliant with not only the local authorities, Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA), but also meets the highest international standards set forth by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

In 21 years as operators of SIA, MBJ has invested over US\$396 million on capital projects. This investment reflects MBJ's dedication to ensuring that passengers, staff, and stakeholders experience a secure and safe environment, reinforcing Sangster International Airport’s reputation as the “Caribbean's Leading Airport” – World Travel Awards, 2009 – 2024.



MBJ Airports Limited - Sangster International Airport, Island Mailboxes, Suite 4000, Montego Bay, St. James, Jamaica.

Telephone: +1876 952-2712 / 3124 / 3133; Fax: +187 6971-9598; www.mbjairport.com



SIA facilitates more than 85 percent of tourist arriving in the island. Since MBJ assumed management of the airport, passenger traffic increased from 3.2 to 5.2 million passengers in 2023.

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About Sangster International Airport:

Sangster International Airport (IATA: MBJ, ICAO: MKJS) is an international airport located 3 mi (4.8 km) east of Montego Bay, Jamaica. The airport is capable of handling nine million passengers per year. It serves as the most popular airport for tourists visiting the north coast of Jamaica. The airport is named after former Jamaican Prime Minister Sir Donald Sangster.

About MBJ Airports:

MBJ Airports Limited, the operator of Sangster International Airport, connects Jamaica to more than 60 international destinations. A record 5.267m passengers used the airport in 2023. MBJ operates SIA under a 30-year concession awarded in 2003 and the airport provides employment to more than 7,500 persons. SIA has been named the Caribbean's Leading Airport by World Travel Awards for 16 years.



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