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## **Virtual Library Opens at Philadelphia International Airport**

*Passengers can download e-books and more in new hot spot area on D/E Connector*

**PHILADELPHIA** – Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) has partnered with the Free Library of Philadelphia to bring the Library's vast electronic resources to Airport customers in a brand new Virtual Library Hot Spot on the D/E Connector. While relaxing in comfortable lounge chairs in a virtual reading room, customers can log on to the Airport's free Wi-Fi to access the Library's e-books, nearly 1,200 author podcasts, and other digital content.

The Virtual Library Hot Spot, situated on the busy walkway between Terminals D and E, is designed to give the look and feel of a comfortable reading room. It is furnished with colorful lounge chairs, side tables, and bright red planters, as well as book spine graphics along the windows and large columns and pendant lighting. In these comfortable surroundings, passengers can download book titles in a variety of genres from bestsellers to classics to children's books, podcasts from popular authors and more.



"The Free Library is an iconic Philadelphia institution, and its tremendous resources have provided reading enjoyment, learning and entertainment for generations of all ages," said Airport CEO Mark Gale. "In the digital age, the Library's resources have become even more accessible and we are pleased that our customers can download e-books, listen to podcasts and browse through the Library's digital offerings in a comfortable setting. We are proud to enhance the travel experience at PHL by partnering with the Library in promoting a love of reading and learning."

**-More-**

## **Virtual Library Opens at PHL/2**

The Library plans to have a representative on hand part-time to assist users in navigating the site and to answer questions.

Much of the Free Library's digital content, including classic titles and podcasts, is available to anyone, but a Free Library card is necessary to download non-classic titles and some digital content. Free Library cards are available free of charge to Pennsylvania residents; out-of-state residents can obtain a Free Library card for \$50 per year. Applications to obtain Library cards can be accessed on the Library's website, [www.freelibrary.org](http://www.freelibrary.org).

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$14.4 billion in spending to the regional economy and accounting for more than 141,000 jobs.