



IAADFS joins U.S. airport concessions groups seeking \$5 billion in government relief

The International Association of Airport Duty Free Stores (IAADFS) co-authored a letter to the U.S. Congress with the Airport Restaurant and Retail Association (ARRA), the Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC), the National Parking Association (NPA), and the American Car Rental Association (ACRA), asking the U.S. Congress to provide financial relief for duty free, travel retail, and other concessionaires active in the U.S. airport ecosystem that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

The letter addresses Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy and, on behalf of the associations members, calls for targeted funding for these concessionaire organizations to help weather the current crisis, similar to the funding requests that have been submitted by other industry associations.

These airport concessions have been particularly hard hit by the shut down in flight activities from the coronavirus pandemic.

The letter underscores that airport concessionaires are the only partner in the airport/aviation ecosystem that did not receive targeted assistance through the CARES Act, even though U.S. airports received some \$10 billion in relief funds.

“All indicators point to a particularly long and

slow recovery for our sector,” says Michael Payne, President and CEO of the IAADFS.

“Our hope is that securing dedicated funding will help protect our operator members so that as the crisis eases and travel begins to come back, those concessionaires are better prepared to resume operations. This will benefit not only the operator members but also the key suppliers of products sold in those stores and service providers that support the duty free and travel retail marketplace.

“This campaign also provides us with the opportunity to underscore the significant financial contribution that airport concessionaires make to the airport ecosystem – an estimated \$8 billion annually, or approximately 40 percent of total airport revenues – that support airport operations, maintenance, and safety and security programs, as well as fueling development and growth of the airports,” he explains.

Payne notes that while the letter is directed at a U.S. legislative action, the groups hope that this information in the open letter about the importance of the industry and synergy with others impacted by the crisis will resonate throughout the Americas and beyond and will help foster a new way of holistically thinking about the airport ecosystem we all depend on.

View the industry’s open letter to Congress.

Experts at ASUTIL webinar predict no recovery until 2021 in Latin America; could take years to reach pre-COVID levels

By John Gallagher

Two economists speaking at an ASUTIL-hosted webinar last week predict that Latin America is unlikely to see any recovery from the current crisis before 2021, and that it could take the region’s two major powers longer than that to even reach pre-COVID levels.

Economists Tatiana Pinheiro from BNP – Paribas from Brazil and Buenos Aires-based Carlos Melconian, speaking at the second ASUTIL-hosted webinar in a week, warned industry listeners that any recovery in 2021 would be unlikely to offset the major contraction which has occurred in Q2 of this year and is almost certain to continue in Q3 and Q4.

Tatiana Pinheiro estimated that it would take Brazil up to three years to recover to pre-COVID19 levels. The estimated GDP contraction of 7.5% in 2020 would be accompanied by 2.2% growth in 2021. She commented that Brazil had not performed well in 2019 in spite of low inflation and

low interest rates; and that the lack of a coordinated response from the Federal Government to attack the virus will make it difficult to propel the economy into positive growth quickly.

According to Pinheiro, the government does not have the fiscal tools to reactivate demand, highlighting that Chile, Peru and Colombia were more likely to restart growth, once they are able to control the virus.

As for travel, Brazil is restarting domestic flights although schedules are still lower than pre-virus.

Pinheiro doubts that international traffic will return until later in the year and schedules may depend on the availability of a vaccine.

The volatility of the Brazilian Real was also a major worry, said Pinheiro. Since the start of the year, the Real has moved in a wide band from just over 5.00 to the USD to close to 6.00 (with 5.25 considered closer to the true value).

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Keith Spinks to step down from ETRC

Keith Spinks is stepping down from his role as Senior Counsel at the European Travel Retail Confederation at the end of August.

Spinks, who has devoted thirty years of service to the travel retail industry, served as Secretary General of ETRC, and its predecessor ITRC, from 2000-2019 and before that played a major role in all duty free campaigns since 1988.

Following Julie Lassaigne’s appointment to the Secretary General role last year, Keith has acted as ETRC Senior Counsel with specific responsibility for tobacco related issues.

Spinks commented: “This is a business full of innovation, diversity, excitement, and most of all, great people. It has been my pleasure to work alongside people such as Frank O’Connell and Sarah Branquinho who have been real trailblazers in protecting the business. I will be stepping down from ETRC at the end of August, but still plan to remain active within the industry and will be seeking out interesting projects for the future.”

ETRC President Nigel Keal said: “Keith has made a legendary commitment to this industry and for that we all should be extremely grateful. He has been at the forefront of every major lobbying campaign we have fought since 1990, and his efforts have in many ways ensured the continued growth and sustainability of this industry.”

ASUTIL webinar experts predict no recovery until 2021 in Latin America; could take years to reach pre-COVID levels

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With an uncertain political scenario, volatility would likely continue, clearly disappointing news for travel retail operators and suppliers.

Melconian confirmed many of the points made by Pinheiro and said that the Argentine situation was much worse than the Brazilian scenario. Recovery, when it comes, would be slow.

The well-known economist -- former President of the Banco de la Nación Argentina during the government of Mauricio Macri and currently CEO of M&S Consultores—said that Argentina's extreme quarantine [against COVID-19] has killed the economy.

The economy was in a bad state pre-COVID19 and the recession, once the lockdown is lifted, could be one of the worst in living memory, he predicts.

He advised that debt restructuring and a deal with the IMF would be the key to an early recovery but that the fiscal gap was growing and the Central Bank printing machine was the only answer the government had at present.

Monetary expansion was keeping the economy afloat but the government had to take urgent measures, once agreement had been made with foreign creditors, to reduce the fiscal gap.

He also hinted at a possible devaluation as a possible answer but strongly argued against a "politically motivated" default.

The big danger to a recovery, according to Melconian, was a resurgence of inflation - the ability of Argentina's current president, Alberto Fernandez, to take control of all aspects of government would also be crucial to starting on the road to recovery.

John Gallagher

OAG: Shake up in South America aviation

In its June 25th coronavirus update report by Becca Rowland, OAG Aviation Worldwide points out that while aviation is "reeling" around the world, South America's carriers are not receiving the significant government support that North America and Europe have seen for airlines.

This will be an important factor in how the industry on these continents will emerge from the pandemic, says the air travel data provider. And while the "lack of subsidy will speed some airline failures," it could also provide an opportunity for new entrants with business models better suited to the new operating environment, it says. OAG argues that many of the barriers to entry for new airlines will be lower than they have been for some time.

Capacity plunges

OAG reports: "Since the first week of April, scheduled flights to and from the ten largest country markets in South America have been down by between 80% and 90% year-over-year... Argentina, Colombia and Peru have less than 3% of the operations there were a year ago, with aviation virtually at a standstill; Brazil and Chile are a little better at 20% of former capacity; and Bolivia and Venezuela have limited the impact to under 50% but these are 'significantly smaller markets.'"

Airline failures

Airline activity has dropped in the region even though domestic capacity -- which is expected to assist the U.S. and China to begin recovering sooner -- accounted for 80% of all airline seats in 2019 across these 10 South American countries.

The situation is exacerbated by the airline failures in Latin America, says OAG.

Recently major regional carriers LATAM and Avianca entered bankruptcy protection; in Ecuador, TAME ceased trading in May when the government decided to liquidate the airline.

OAG reports that these three airlines contributed 43% of all scheduled capacity across these 10 countries in 2019. In Brazil they have accounted for a third of all capacity; and in Columbia, Chile and Peru they operated three in every five seats or more.

If the three airlines fail to emerge from bankruptcy protection it will leave a significant hole in South American aviation, says OAG.

OAG says that these failures could provide opportunities for new airlines. From idle aircraft and the availability of downsized but qualified crew, to the low price of fuel, barriers to entry for a new airline are lower than they have been in many years.

Additionally, OAG says passenger growth pre-COVID indicates there is more potential for air services than was provided up until the current crisis.

Dufry's new global restructuring program aims to reduce personnel expenses 20-35%

Travel retail giant Dufry last week announced that it was implementing a restructuring program to mitigate the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The restructuring is in line with the initiatives that the company announced in May and earlier this month to reduce expenses and to adapt the company to the new business environment.

The program aims at reducing personnel expenses by 20% to 35% reflecting the different scenarios of potential sales declines of 40% to 70%, which the company had already presented in its Q1 Trading Update on May 12, 2020.

The reduction in personnel expenses includes early retirements, hold-backs of seasonal staff employment, contributions from government support schemes as well as the reduction of positions across all organizational levels and geographies.

Dufry says that it is currently not possible to provide details on the number and locations of the positions concerned due to consultation procedures in several countries. The company plans to implement these measures between June and October 2020.

Aeromexico files for bankruptcy protection

Grupo Aeromexico SAB, Mexico's second-largest airline, filed for bankruptcy in the U.S., the fourth Latin American carrier to seek the Court's protection after the COVID-19 pandemic caused a severe downturn in travel, reports Bloomberg.

In a message on the Aeromexico website, CEO Andrés Conesa said: "We have initiated a voluntary procedure to implement a financial restructuring under the Chapter 11 process in the United States of America. This legal process will not interrupt the airline's operations. We are continuing to fly with enhanced health and safety measures. All tickets, reservations, electronic travel vouchers, and Club Premier Points remain valid and available for use.

The carrier will use Chapter 11 as a way to "strengthen its financial position and liquidity," according to a statement to the Mexican stock exchange Tuesday.

Aeromexico's passenger traffic plunged more than 90% as flights were grounded and travelers banned.

Aeromexico operates routes in Mexico, and internationally to the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia, among others. Delta Air Lines Inc. is its biggest shareholder. The airline said it is in discussions for new financing.

U.S. domestic air travel starts to rebound: best performance expected during July 4th weekend

The United States is seeing the beginning of a rebound in domestic air travel, reports travel analytics company ForwardKeys, who expects the upcoming July 4th weekend to be a high point after the drastic drop in aviation from the coronavirus pandemic over the past four months.

An analysis of new flight tickets issued between the start of the year and mid-June shows that the bottom of the market was during the first week of April. From then, there has been a steady climb, reaching 42% of 2019 levels during the third week of June.

Closer analysis, by type of tickets issued, shows that the recovery is being driven much more strongly by leisure bookings, which have substantially outpaced business bookings since the collapse in the market in early March.

As of June 23, the number of new U.S. domestic air tickets issued for travel between June 20 and July 18, a fortnight before and a fortnight after the Independence Day

holiday, were 55.8% behind the equivalent period last year. However, bookings for the start of the Independence Day weekend were just 16.9% behind the same day in 2019.

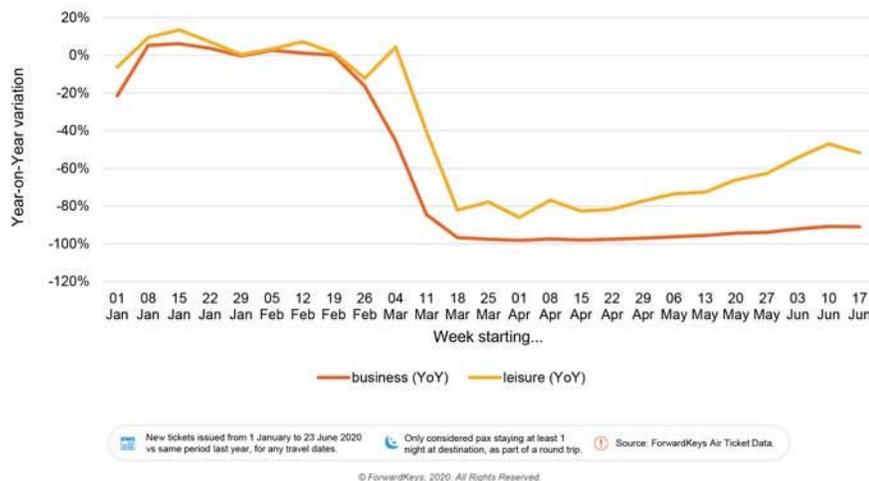
A likely reason why this year's Independence Day travel bookings are relatively less badly affected is that July 4 falls on a Saturday in

2020, creating a public holiday on Friday, July 3.

Economists are expected to pay careful attention to signs of recovery in the aviation sector, because domestic tourism represented 4.5% of the U.S. economy in 2019 – a trillion-dollar industry, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council.

Olivier Ponti, VP, Insights, ForwardKeys, said: "It's inspiring to observe that a rebound is underway; and that Independence Day is the high-water mark. However, a major unknown is how the COVID-19 outbreak will progress and how significantly the latest spikes could arrest the recovery in flight bookings."

Ticketing history of new tickets issued for domestic US air arrivals, weekly Year-on-Year variations for business vs leisure, 1 Jan to 23 Jun



Atlanta City Council votes to extend rent relief at Hartsfield-Jackson for concessionaires

The Atlanta City Council has voted to approve a request by Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport to extend rent relief to airport restaurant and shop operators for a year, as the concessionaires continue to suffer from drastically reduced passenger traffic during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Atlanta City Council Transportation Committee recommended to the Atlanta City Council that the City continues to waive the minimum rent requirements, and instead collect just a percentage of the businesses' revenue, until June 30, 2021, reported the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* on June 24. The City Council voted in favor of the rent relief last Wednesday.

The airport has also asked to waive fees charged to concessionaires for parking, marketing and storage.

After the one-year of rent relief, the airport also plans to adjust future minimum rent requirements by basing it on percentage rent paid in the previous 12 months, reports the *AJC*.

Passenger counts are down 80% compared with a year ago, said the *AJC*, quoting airport general manager John Selden.

U.S. carriers begin to resume flights to China and other international destinations

Delta Air Lines re-started service between Seattle and Shanghai-Pudong via Seoul-Incheon on June 25, operating twice per week. From July and beyond, it will also operate once-weekly flights from Seattle and Detroit, also via Incheon.

Delta is the first U.S. airline to re-connect the U.S. and China since the temporary suspension in February due to the outbreak of COVID-19, although it advised passengers that seat availability may be limited due to limited operations.

United Airlines says that it will resume service to China with twice-weekly flights between San Francisco and Shanghai's Pudong International Airport via Seoul's Incheon International Airport beginning July 8, 2020.

Prior to suspending service to Shanghai in February due to COVID-19, United was the largest U.S. carrier serving China and operated five daily flights between Shanghai and its hubs in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago and New York/Newark. United has served Shanghai for more than 30 years.

United will also reinstate service between Chicago and Tokyo, Seoul, Hong Kong and Singapore via a stop at Hong Kong.

In June, San Francisco International Airport (SFO) also welcomed the return of international service from: China Airlines to Taipei, operating one passenger flight per week; United Airlines to Frankfurt, three flights per week; British Airways with daily passenger flights to London; Philippine Airlines to Manila, with plans for two flights per week; Cathay Pacific to Hong Kong, with plans for three passenger flights per week; and Lufthansa to Munich, with three flights per week (as of June 23).

The European Union is opening its borders to visitors from 15 countries as of July 1, but not to travelers from the United States, Brazil or Russia due to the high numbers of active COVID-19 cases in these countries.

Online markets continue to flourish

It should come as no surprise that e-commerce is flourishing during this global shutdown.

The top 100 global marketplace merchants grew gross merchandise value a total of 18.0% in 2019, according to the 2020 Online Marketplaces Report released this week by research company Digital Commerce 360.

Amazon.com holds the top position of online retailers in North America, but the industry giant is dwarfed by two of Alibaba's holdings: Taobao and Tmall. Together, these three marketplaces—Amazon, Taobao and Tmall—represent 65% of the entire top 100 online marketplaces sales in 2019.

Niche marketplaces—or those selling products in a specific merchandise category such as Etsy, Newegg and Houzz—grew GMV 23.6% in 2019. Hybrid marketplaces—or those like Walmart that sell their own goods as well as the products of non-associated retailers—grew 36.1% in 2019. Both of these are much higher than the 18.0% growth of the overall top 100 online marketplaces.

[Digital Commerce 360 Research](#) publishes 30+ analysis reports a year on key ecommerce topics, including online marketplaces, cross-border ecommerce and omnichannel retailing.

Major U.S. airlines require health affirmation

Major U.S. airlines now require passengers to complete a simple health acknowledgement affirming that they do not have coronavirus symptoms and have not had close contact with anyone who has tested positive for the virus in the previous 14 days, as well as an affirmation to wear a face covering in the airport and inflight. **Airlines for America** announced on Monday that its members would all take this step as “one more important measure in our multi-layered approach to help mitigate risk and prioritize the well-being of passengers and employees.”

In a related development, **U.S. Travel Association** President and CEO Roger Dow issued a strong statement on the importance of mask wearing and adhering to healthy travel practices at the forefront of the Fourth of July holiday and throughout the summer travel season.

The statement says, in part: “The travel community strongly urges visitors and residents alike to wear masks and adhere to all healthy practices, such as physical distancing, frequent hand washing and remaining home if sick—no matter where you may be traveling in the country...”

ACI outlines seamless airport security screening experience

Airports Council International (ACI) World has released its *Smart Security Vision 2040* which sets the foundation for achieving a seamless airport security screening experience post-COVID-19.

The vision is part of the Smart Security program which promotes concepts and solutions that take a risk-based approach, increase efficiency, enhance the passenger experience, and ensure secure airport operations. It brings together a coalition of leading airports, regulators and airlines, says ACI.

The vision explores several long-term trends affecting aviation and airports, taking account of economic and operational recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, and the industry's increased focus on health and cleanliness.

The Smart Security Vision includes innovations such as arti-

ficial intelligence and the increasing use of big data and stand-off detection. These innovations promote a more touchless, seamless approach to airport security screening and have the potential to radically transform the way that passengers and baggage are screened.

“As the aviation industry continues to plan for a sustained recovery from unprecedented COVID-19 crisis, ACI believes that any initiative that utilizes improved technology to facilitate touchless and more efficient passenger journeys needs to be accelerated,” ACI World Director General Luis Felipe De Oliveira said.

The document will be continually edited and updated, and stakeholder input will be integral to its evolution.

Delta engages Mayo Clinic to advise on making travel safer

Delta Air Lines and the Mayo Clinic are collaborating to provide additional safety and COVID-19 infection control measures for customers and employees.

The partnership with the Mayo Clinic, a global leader in serious and complex medical care, is part of Delta's efforts to build upon

its foundation of care and cleanliness, known as the Delta CareStandard, to mitigate the risk of transmitting COVID-19 during travel, reports the carrier.

Delta is working closely with expert advisors at the Mayo Clinic to review, enhance and continuously improve health and safety protocols.

“Mayo Clinic has responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by developing innovations in molecular and antibody testing, therapies including convalescent plasma, and protocols and procedures to protect our staff and patients from the spread of infection,” says Dr. Henry Ting, M.D., chief value officer at Mayo Clinic, and a member of the Integrated Advisory Council set up with Delta. “We look forward to collaborating with Delta by using advanced analytics and ongoing testing innovations to help their passengers travel as safely as possible.”

American Airlines “resets” international routes into 2021

American Airlines is cutting its long-haul international schedule for winter 2020 through summer 2021, reducing capacity by 25% compared to 2019.

The airline will realign its network with the goal of improving long-term profitability, with Chief Revenue Officer Vasu Raja saying that “COVID-19 has forced us to reevaluate our network.”

American will exit three trans-Atlantic routes from both Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT) and Philadelphia International Airport (PHL). The company will also exit five underperforming routes from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to destinations in Asia and South America.

Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) will be the airline's major trans-Pacific hub while Miami International Airport (MIA) will continue to be the preeminent hub for flights to the Caribbean and Latin America. Once government restrictions on trans-Atlantic flying subside, PHL will continue to be American's primary hub for service to Europe.

TFWA to hold Webinar on Sustainability

TFWA is launching a series of webinars, each focusing on a key theme that will be crucial to the industry as it heads towards recovery. The next one will be on Thursday, July 16, at 10:30 CET, and repeated at 17:00 CET (11 am EDT). It will feature Pi Insight Managing Director Stephen Hillam, the author of the Sustainability in Travel Retail Study 2020. The session will present data and insights on the importance of environmental, ethical and sustainability issues to traveling consumers, and how these issues are influencing their purchasing and travel behavior. To participate, please register here .



Rituals launches the Ritual of Namasté Body



Rituals has extended The Ritual of Namasté natural skincare collection with a complementary body care line. The Ritual of Namasté Body is available now at Rituals' travel retail locations globally.

The new Ritual of Namasté body care range is comprised of advanced body care that has been developed to unveil skin's natural radiance, using natural ingredients and fragrances from the world's leading laboratories.

The collection features natural or naturally derived ingredients which have been responsibly sourced. These include: Holy Lotus, known for its soothing and caring properties; White-Water Lily; Sweet Almond Oil and Shea Butter, known for their hydrating properties; Natural AHA which promotes the cell renewal process and Vitamin E, known for its skin renewing and regenerating properties.

The Ritual of Namasté Body

collection comprises five products:

Body Scrub – a fine-grain sugar exfoliator that encourages skin cell renewal by removing dead skin cells, promoting collagen and creating better blood flow.

Shower Cream – an innovative shower cream, containing Sweet Almond Oil and Vitamin E. It creates a soft foaming sensation.

Intense Hydrating Body Cream – a 24-hour hydrating body cream that contains Hyaluronic Acid and enhances skin's texture and tone.

Intense Hydrating Body Cream Refill – an eco-chic refill that fits perfectly in the luxurious jar and saves 70% in CO2 emissions, 65% in energy and uses 45% less water.

Natural Deodorant Stick – the deodorant is quickly absorbed by the skin and leaves a naturally fresh smell. Enriched with natural ingredients, such as Shea Butter and Indian Rose, the formula moisturizes and soothes the underarm skin.

Gucci adds three new limited edition shades to Rouge à Lèvres Satin line



Following the success of Rouge à Lèvres Satin lipstick launch, Gucci Beauty adds three limited-edition lipsticks to the line.

The collection was specially conceived by Gucci Creative Director Alessandro Michele to complete the line with elegant fresh satin colors, and shades inspired by Hollywood stars from the Golden Age, with their lips expressing "sensuality, charm and influence"

The three new colors, ranging from nudes to reds and pinks, are available as of July 2020 worldwide and in travel retail.

Rouge à Lèvres Satin lipstick

delivers a creamy formula, intense color, and long-lasting finish.

Packaged in a new blue green tube, Rouge à Lèvres Satin is etched with a decorative style drawn by Alessandro Michele that borrows its flair from Art Deco inspirations.

The Shades

The three new limited-edition Rouge à Lèvres Satin range is comprised of 309 The Girl From Paris Rouge à Lèvres Satin; 410 No More Orchids Rouge à Lèvres Satin; and 512 Maggie Scarlet Rouge à Lèvres Satin.

Coty launches new Gucci Flora Gorgeous Gardenia limited edition

Gucci's newest limited edition in the Gucci Flora line is Gorgeous Gardenia, with a bottle design and packaging that pay homage to the nuances of the color lavender. It launched worldwide in travel retail on July 1.

An intensely feminine fragrance, Gucci Flora Gorgeous Gardenia opens with red berries that give way to floral notes of white gardenia and frangipani, drying down to patchouli and brown sugar.

The fragrance is presented in a limited edition painted hexagonal-shaped opaque lavender-hued flacon, offset by black Gucci lettering and a black bow.

Inspired by the House's famed Flora pattern, the scent is encased in a lavender colored box show-

casing the flower and insect motif first created by Vittorio Accornero for Princess Grace of Monaco in 1966.

The limited edition scent is presented alongside the full Gucci Flora line in a new advertising campaign for 2020 that also features Gucci model Unia Pakhomova.

The scent, created and distributed by Coty, is available in 50ml and 100ml sizes.





Hi-tech Glass 2 thermal glasses that can scan 1,000 ppm targets cruise channel

Three respected cruise industry veterans are bringing a leading new technology that can scan up to 1,000 people per minute to the cruise channel, which is implementing new safety and sanitation measures in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Tony Murray at Taras Consultancy, Felipe Lopez at AL Concesiones, and Mark Lewis-Jones at CTD Marketing -- with a combined total experience of over 80 years among them—are launching the hi-tech Glass 2 thermal glasses to maritime cruise, ferry, and cargo terminal operators.

Already used by a number of government policing agencies as well as in the private sector, Glass 2 thermal glasses are now available to the cruise, travel, tourism, hospitality, and shipping industries. They are ideal for high traffic environments, can easily scan guests, visitors, and workers, says Lewis-Jones.

Glass 2 thermal glasses can help expedite the movement of people, especially in high traffic areas, and detect those with elevated temperatures as a first line measure against the potential spread of contagion.

Quick and unobtrusive

This is faster, more efficient and reliable, and less obtrusive than utilizing smart temperature guns or thermal screening cameras, says Lewis-Jones.

When the cruise industry resumes operations later this year, operators will

need to implement new safety and sanitation measures to comply with international regulations to minimize risk of exposure to pathogens and spread of disease.

Lewis-Jones explains that the Glass 2 can scan crowds at a rate of 10 persons per second, much faster than a smart temperature gun, which typically makes one reading per second. This allows users to react much faster to a fever case as compared to the standard walk-through thermal screening unit, he says.

The thermal glasses can also be used at a much safer distance of 1.5 – 2.0 meters from the persons being monitored, and eliminates the need to obtrusively slow down embarkation and disembarkation lines by measuring each individual.

As an added safety measure, the Glass 2 thermal glasses can also be used for shipboard, public venues, entrance/exit points as well as private destination use.

It can also provide AI options to interface with facial recognition capabilities as well as hands-free document scanning procedures.

The Glass 2 glasses are offered through Taras Consultancy, a Miami-based firm with over 35 years of experience in the travel and cruise industries.

For more information please call +1.305.608.1908 or e-mail tarasconsultancy@gmail.com



Glass 2 thermal glasses are now available to the cruise, travel, tourism, hospitality, and shipping industries.



Loch Lomond Whiskies pay tribute to 149th Open with special edition

Loch Lomond Whiskies has unveiled a new special edition single malt to mark the Championship that was due to take place in July this year.

The Loch Lomond 12 Year Old The Open Special Edition 2020 was created to celebrate The 149th Open at Royal St George's in Kent, which has been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is the first time since WWII that the Championship will not be played.

The special edition, crafted by master blender Michael Henry, showcases Loch Lomond's unique straight neck pot still, and is created from a Chardonnay wine yeast, a fermentation process that's rarely used in whisky distilling as it requires greater time to achieve the final liquid.

Priced at £50 RRP with an ABV of 46%, 3,000 limited-edition bottles will be released globally in early July.

Loch Lomond Whiskies' became The Official Spirit of The Open in 2018. The 149th Open will now be played at Royal St George's in July 2021, with The 150th Open at St Andrews moving to 2022.

Loch Lomond Whiskies, based in Alexandria near Loch Lomond, agreed a five-year partnership with The R&A, organisers of The Open, in February 2018.



Loch Lomond Inchmoan 12-Year-Old has been awarded Best Highland Single Malt 12 Years and Under at the 2018 World Whiskies Awards and a Gold Medal at the 2020 San Francisco 2020 Awards.

Loch Lomond Whiskies was recently also awarded the following medals at the 2020 San Francisco World Spirits Competition:

PLATINUM: Loch Lomond 12 Year Old
DOUBLE GOLD MEDAL – Inchmurrin 12 Year Old
GOLD MEDAL – Inchmoan 12 Year Old
DOUBLE GOLD MEDAL – Loch Lomond 18 Year Old
DOUBLE GOLD MEDAL: Loch Lomond 10 Year Old