

Preparing Terminal Facilities for Today's Aging Population

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Rationale for Research

Older adults “can’t get no satisfaction” using airports



Cause they tried and they tried, but had problems:

- Way finding
- Waiting
- Walking

Senior\$ Represent a Lucrative Airline Market

2001 - 12 million passengers

2025 - 30 – 60 million passengers

Impact of Enhancing Airport Terminals by 2025

- Airports – an additional \$600 million a year by 2025
- Airlines – an additional \$3.0 billion a year by 2025

Research Methods

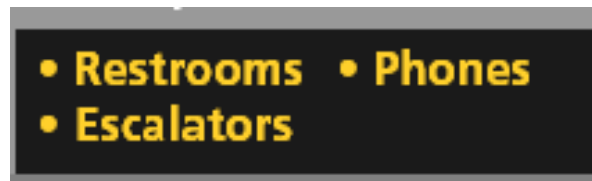
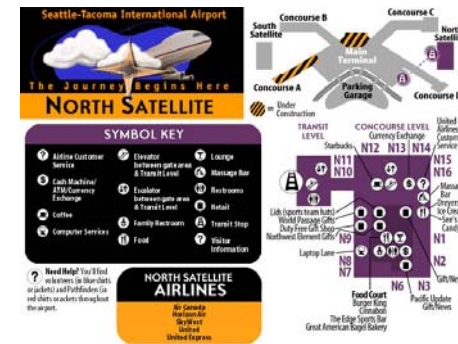
- Research on aging and implications for terminal design
- Holding focus group and conducting interviews

Implications of Aging on Terminal Design

- Mobility → *Walking*
- Strength → *Waiting/lifting*
- Sight → *Signage*
- Hearing → *Messages*
- Touch → *Vending machines*
- Cognition → *Way finding*

Way finding Facilitation

- Simplify maps
- Improve signage
- Enhance lighting



Source: PANYNJ March, 2002



Photo: Michael Meyer

Source: Lighting Research Center, RPI 2001

Waiting Reduction

- Security
- Gate
- Baggage



Walking Assistive Devices

- Horizontal Space
- Vertical Space
- Diagonal Space
(grade change)



Recommendations (1)

- Include air travel in efforts to enhance elderly mobility through involvement by:
 - Airports
 - Airlines
 - Ground Transportation Providers
 - Planners/Engineers/Consultants
 - Federal/State and local governments
 - Others

Recommendations (2)

- Define, develop and implement design standards
 - Hold workshop to define standards
 - Work with professionals to establish standards
 - Conduct airport audits
 - Identify and implement enhancements

For More Information

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