



News Release

Press Office

City of Chicago, Department of Aviation
Nuria I. Fernandez, Commissioner

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O'HARE TRAVELERS EXPERIENCE CLASSIC AMERICANA AT JOHNNY ROCKETS RESTAURANT

CHICAGO – The Department of Aviation and HMSHost celebrated the grand opening of Johnny Rockets restaurant on Monday, April 14, 2008 in Terminal 2 at O'Hare International Airport. O'Hare's newest restaurant lets travelers take a nostalgic trip back to the days of the authentic 1950s American diner.

"Our goal is to provide travelers with fresh and exciting restaurant options when traveling through our airports," said Department of Aviation Commissioner Nuria I. Fernandez. "Johnny Rockets offers our customers a family friendly restaurant with all the tastes and ambiance of a vintage diner."

Johnny Rockets is the famous regional soda shop and hamburger palace with fast and friendly service. The décor is reminiscent of a classic diner, with framed vintage posters on white walls, sleek stainless steel exhibition kitchens and lively, bright colors. Customers can choose to sit at the counter or place an order at the counter to have it delivered to their table.

The menu features wholesome, made to order food that's served fast for on-the-go travelers. The burgers are 1/3 pound of freshly ground beef, shaped by hand and grilled to order. The old-fashioned malts and shakes are hand-dipped and made with real vanilla ice cream and the fries are hand cut. American-styled sandwiches and vegetarian burgers can be ordered as well. Breakfast is also a staple at Johnny Rockets, with scrambled eggs, omelettes and home fries leading the menu.

"Johnny Rockets offers food, fun and friendliness reminiscent of feel-good Americana and we are very pleased to bring this nationally recognized brand to Chicago O'Hare International Airport," said Stephen Douglas, Vice President, Business Development for HMSHost.

Johnny Rockets restaurant is located in the main corridor that connects Terminals 1 and 2 at O'Hare.

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Since first opening in California in 1986, Johnny Rockets has been serving great American comfort food in retro-cool shops all over the U.S.

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About Chicago Airport System

The Chicago Airport System is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit www.flychicago.com to learn more about the Chicago Airport System.

About HMSHost

HMSHost is a world leader in creating shopping and dining for travel venues. HMSHost operates in more than 100 airports around the globe, including the 20 busiest airports in North America. It has annual sales in excess of \$2.6 billion and employs more than 33,000 sales associates worldwide. A part of Autogrill S.p.A, HMSHost and the rest of the Autogrill Group are recognized leaders in travel restaurants and retail. With sales exceeding €4.9 billion, Autogrill is present in 33 countries with more than 4,800 points of sale in more than 1,050 locations (including 163 airports and 689 motorways) where 51,000 employees serve over 840 million customers every year. Visit www.HMSHost.com for more information.

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Editor's Note – Two photos and captions are attached.

Photo #1 -

Chicago Aviation Committee Chairman and 45th Ward Alderman Patrick A. Levar (left) and Chicago Department of Aviation Commissioner Nuria I. Fernandez (right) attended the grand opening celebration of Johnny Rockets restaurant on April 14 at O'Hare International Airport. Located in the main corridor that connects Terminals 1 and 2, Johnny Rockets features a 1950's American diner theme, with a menu of burgers, old-fashioned malts and milkshakes, as well as breakfast items. HMSHost operates only one other airport location in Boston. The restaurant chain opened in California in 1986.

Photo #2 -

Travelers at O'Hare International Airport have a new food option as Johnny Rockets opened to the public on April 14. Located in the main corridor that connects Terminals 1 and 2, Johnny Rockets features a 1950's American diner theme, with a menu of burgers, old-fashioned malts and milkshakes, as well as breakfast items. HMSHost operates only one other airport location in Boston. The restaurant chain opened in California in 1986.