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Southwest Airlines Ceases Operations in New Orleans in Wake of Hurricane Gustav

Southwest Also Closely Monitoring Storm's Path for Effect On Other Airports

DALLAS, Aug. 31 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Southwest Airlines said today that it will cease operations to and from New Orleans' Louis Armstrong International Airport after 5:30 p.m. Central Time today as a result of expected severe weather from Hurricane Gustav. The airline does not expect to operate on Monday, Sept. 1, or Tuesday, Sept. 2. Southwest plans to resume service to and from New Orleans on Wednesday, Sept. 3, but that will depend upon the availability of airport security personnel, facilities, and services.

Southwest strongly encourages travelers to contact Southwest Reservations at (800) 435-9792 or look for updated travel advisories at: www.southwest.com/content/travel_center/travel_advisory_0038.html?ref=wthr before checking in or proceeding to the airport.

Southwest Airlines Customers holding reservations for travel to and from New Orleans from Noon Central Time on Friday, Aug. 29, through the close of business Wednesday, Sept. 3, may choose to alter their travel plans and rebook in the original class of service or travel standby (within 14 days of their original date of travel between the original city-pairs and in accordance with our accommodation procedures) without paying any additional charge.

Additionally, Customers holding reservations for a flight that is cancelled to and from New Orleans may request a refund for any unused ticket/travel itinerary.

Southwest also is issuing a weather travel advisory for Customers traveling to and from Jackson, Miss. Depending on the storm's path, flight service could be disrupted. Flights to and from Jackson currently are operating normally, but possible disruptions could occur Monday, Sept. 1, and Tuesday, Sept. 2. Again, Customers are advised to check status online at www.southwest.com or by calling (800) 435-9792.

www.southwest.com

SOURCE Southwest Airlines