OMP Runway 9L/27R and New North Tower Commissioning
November 20, 2008

The O’Hare Modernization Program held a special event with hundreds of well-wishers in attendance on November 20, 2008 to dedicate the new Runway 9L/27R and commission the new North Tower. Runway 9L/27 is the first new runway since 1971. Suburban mayors and village presidents joined the City of Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley aboard the first official passenger flight to land on the new 7,500 ft long runway. Prof. David Lange attended on behalf of CEAT and flew in the inaugural flight.

The new 9L-27R runway features the latest in technological advances such as embedded weather sensors, new FAA communications equipment systems, and light systems to transition pilots from instrument to visual flight for landing. The new tower provides line-of-sight for 9L-27R which is not possible from the existing air traffic control tower.

Caption (clockwise from top right): New tower; aerial view from first flight; reception in hangar; D. Lange with Bowman, Barrett & Associates engineers Lou Bowman, Ross Anderson, Jim Daum; Mayor Richard Daley addresses the dedication ceremony.