



Emily Williams
Ph: (303) 342-2270
Pager: (303) 342-2288
media@flydenver.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Denver International Airport and United Airlines Celebrate 5 Years of Nonstop Service to Tokyo

DENVER – June 11, 2018 – Today, Denver International Airport (DEN) and United celebrated the airline’s fifth anniversary offering nonstop service to Tokyo. United Airlines became the first airline in history to operate transpacific service from Denver with the inaugural flight from DEN to Tokyo’s Narita International Airport (NRT) on June 10, 2013.

“Securing a nonstop connection to Asia was truly a game-changer for Denver,” said Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock. “United’s service to Tokyo raised awareness of Denver in the fastest growing region of the world, and has expanded our economy through increased trade, foreign investment and visitation. This flight remains one of the proudest accomplishments of my administration and is a reflection of the strong partnership we have with United Airlines.”

Since the service was inaugurated five years ago, United Airlines has operated more than 3,600 flights on the Boeing 787 Dreamliner between Denver and Tokyo/Narita. As a result, demand for travel between Denver and Tokyo has increased by more than 60 percent, and the flight has also stimulated growth to large markets across Asia, most notably Ho Chi Minh City, Bangkok and Manila.

“I’m proud that United, in partnership with Denver International Airport and business and civic leaders in Denver, was able to begin Denver’s first nonstop service to Asia five years ago with the launch of our Denver to Tokyo/Narita route,” said Steve Jaquith, Vice President of United’s Denver Hub. “United has flown more than 650,000 customers on this route and we look forward to continuing to connect the Rocky Mountain region to Tokyo and beyond.”

Japan has the largest commercial relationship with Colorado of any Asian country. In 2017, Japan ranked as Colorado’s fourth largest export market for merchandise goods and the country is one of the largest investors in the state, supporting over 7,000 jobs. Not only does the flight facilitate business between Colorado and Japan, but it provides convenient access to markets across Asia. United’s joint venture partner All Nippon Airways, also a member of the Star Alliance, operates a robust hub network at Tokyo/Narita that provides connections to dozens of cities in the broader Asia Pacific region.

“United’s flight to Tokyo not only provided a great new nonstop option for travelers departing from Denver but it also opened up a brand-new gateway into the United States from Asia,” said DEN CEO Kim Day. “The convenience of Denver as a connecting hub has expanded opportunities for travelers from Asia to the Rocky Mountain West and to other destinations that are a part of United’s growing DEN network.”

Through a study commissioned by Denver International Airport, companies in Denver and throughout Colorado hail the service for expanding business opportunities in Japan and across Asia, resulting in increased productivity and both sales and employment growth. For Japanese companies, Colorado represents a strategic market for investments, partnerships, access to innovative technologies, and for many, a new and growing market for customers in the middle of the United States. Stories that showcase the direct economic benefits this flight has generated are highlighted in this special video: <https://youtu.be/Hepnk6oUuFo>.

The flight departs Denver daily at 12:35 p.m. and arrives at Tokyo-Narita at 3:30 p.m. the next day. For the return, it departs Tokyo at 5:25 p.m. and arrives in Denver at 1:15 p.m. the same day. (All times are local.)

Denver International Airport is the fifth-busiest airport in the United States. With more than 61 million passengers traveling through the airport each year, DEN is one of the busiest airline hubs in the world's largest aviation market. DEN is the primary economic engine for the state of Colorado, generating more than \$26 billion for the region annually. For more information visit www.FlyDenver.com, check us out on [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#), like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

###

Consulate General of Japan in Denver

Since 1999 the Consulate General of Japan has maintained an office in Denver that works to strengthen ties between Japan and Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

“The continued success of the nonstop flight between Denver and Tokyo/Narita is an indicator of the deep economic and cultural connections between Japan and this region,” said Consul General Hiroto Hirakoba. “Over the past five years, and looking toward the future, I believe this exchange leads to greater awareness, understanding, and friendship between us.”

CoorsTek

Dating back over 100 years, Golden-based CoorsTek is a privately held company that develops and manufactures engineered ceramic applications across numerous industries. CoorsTek employs approximately 6,000 people across 12 countries, including 35 active manufacturing locations and other support and sales offices.

“The growing domestic and international network of flights at Denver International Airport has always been important to CoorsTek,” said Jonathan Coors, Co-CEO of CoorsTek. “The service to Tokyo has been especially important, as our employees take the flight many times throughout the year, traveling not only to Japan but to serve customers in Korea, Taiwan and China. In the future the flight will help us to connect to growing business opportunities in Malaysia and Vietnam, both conveniently accessed through the hub at Tokyo/Narita.”

Terumo BCT

Terumo BCT, with approximately 2,500 Colorado employees, is a global leader in blood component, therapeutic apheresis and cellular technologies and has operations in Japan. Its Tokyo-based parent company, Terumo Corporation, is one of the world’s leading medical device manufacturers.

“The nonstop flight allows us to collaborate quickly and easily with our team in Japan, and the hub at Narita provides great access to reach our global operations and our customers across Asia,” said Terumo BCT President and CEO David Perez. “The nonstop flight makes a big difference. It continues to enhance our productivity and collaboration efforts.”

U.S. Meat Export Federation

Headquartered in Denver, the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) is a trade association in the meat and livestock industry. The USMEF promotes U.S. beef, pork and lamb in foreign markets and has 18 overseas offices and representatives. Japan is the largest value market for U.S. beef and pork products with 2017 exports totaling \$1.9 billion and \$1.6 billion, respectively.

“As a result of the nonstop flight, we are able to bring teams of buyers from Asia with less time spent en route, which allows them to meet with a wider range of U.S. suppliers and see more of what the U.S. meat industry has to offer,” said USMEF President and CEO Dan Halstrom.

Webroot

Webroot is a global cybersecurity company headquartered in Broomfield with offices through the U.S., Ireland, the United Kingdom, Austria, Australia and Japan.

“From our perspective, the nonstop service to Tokyo is an important nonstop connection offered from Denver International Airport,” said Melanie Williams, Vice President of Human Resources at Webroot. “The flight has made travel much easier for our employees, helping to increase efficiency and productivity.”