



## January 2006

### **Department of Homeland Security Completes Foundation of Biometric Entry System**

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) US-VISIT program has completed installation of biometric entry capabilities at 104 land border ports, as mandated by Congress. Biometric entry capabilities are now deployed at all fixed ports of entry open to US-VISIT travelers.

US-VISIT is a continuum of security measures that collect biometric and biographic information from visitors at U.S. visa-issuing posts upon their arrival and departure from U.S. air, sea and land border ports. The program enhances security by verifying each visitors' identity and by comparing their biometric and biographical information against watch lists of terrorists, criminals, and immigration violators. For more information, visit DHS's Internet website at [www.dhs.gov/us-visit](http://www.dhs.gov/us-visit).

### **LAX Landmark Pylons Under Repair**

LAX's colorful pylons along Century and Sepulveda Boulevards will receive a complete overhaul this year. The light system is normally lit from dusk to dawn, but it started to falter two years ago. Crews will repair the 26-pylons using new and improved technology such as smaller Light Emitting Diodes (LED) lights at a cost of \$1.8 million.

The pylons consist of structural steel support frames that are encased in a layer of translucent, tempered glass. At the Century Boulevard entrance to LAX, there are 15 pylons forming a 560-foot "gateway" circle measuring an average 100 feet high and 12 feet in diameter. The 11 pylons along the Century Boulevard median are six feet in diameter and ascend in height from 25 to 60 feet.

The landmark represents LAX as one of the Southland's most important public assets and whose economic contributions to the regional economy are expected to increase in coming years. [To read more about the LAX Pylons, click here...](#)

### **QANTAS Airlines Adds Extra Flight Between LAX and Sydney**

Effective March 31, QANTAS is adding an extra non-stop service between LAX and Sydney on Fridays. With the new flight, QANTAS will operate 18 weekly non-stop flights between Los Angeles and Sydney and is adding more than 1,200 seats per month to the route. For more information, visit the airlines' Internet website at <http://www.qantas.com>.

### **Sun Country Airlines Moves to Terminal 3**

Effective December 31, 2005, Sun Country airlines officially moved its operations to Terminal 3 at LAX. The airline was formerly operating in Terminal 5. For more information, visit Sun Country's Internet website at <http://www.suncountry.com>.

### **Scenic Airlines No Longer Flying Out of Palmdale Regional Airport**

Scenic Airlines filed with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) a 90-day notice of intent to terminate service at Palmdale Regional Airport effective March 13, 2006. Palmdale Airport is one of four airports owned and operated by Los Angeles World Airports—LAX, Ontario International and Van Nuys. For information on the filing, visit the DOT's Internet website at [http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf94/377572\\_web.pdf](http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf94/377572_web.pdf).