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Extra! BWI to boost newsstands

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Staff

Travelers have two additional newsstand choices at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport.

Olympic News has opened newsstand locations in BWI's B and C concourses. The retailer plans to open a total of six BWI locations in the next year and add a total of 50 jobs to its airport locations, officials said.

The stores will operate as joint venture with Hudson Group, the operator of Hudson News and Gifts, another BWI newsstand. There are 15 newsstands at the Linthicum airport, where passenger space comprises nearly 2 million square feet.

The new bookstores will report to airport concessionaire BAA Maryland.

BAA is planning to open 20 new stores and relocate 10 existing ones in the airport this year. The additions are part of BAA's two-year project to develop and manage a new retail program at BWI.

BAA signed a 12-year contract with the Maryland Aviation Administration in May 2004, becoming the sole concessionaire at the airport. The Pittsburgh-based company replaced industry giant HMSHost, a Bethesda company that held the airport contract for more than 30 years.

BAA says its "Airmall" concept encourages competition between airport retailers and restaurants. The new and refurbished concessions will cover approximately 140,000 square feet.

Borders Group Inc. (NYSE: BGP) opened a store in the main terminal in July.

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