

Monday, July 12, 2010

New Miami Rental Car Center Open For Business

Travelers passing through Miami International Airport who need to rent a car can now do so at the brand new Miami Rental Car Center.

Monday morning Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez, Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos and other dignitaries officially opened the new center at 3900 NW 25th St., just east of the airport.

The first three levels of the four story center are dedicated to storage and maintenance operations while the top floor accommodates 16 car rental agencies which operated inside, or near by, the airport.

Each level of the facility is about the size of eight city blocks; it can house 65 hundred vehicles. In addition to the more than 40 wash bays, there are 120 fueling positions, making it the first multi-level fueling system in the nation.

The center was built by the Florida Department of Transportation as the first major structure of the intermodal complex.

“The rental car center has been a completely new challenge because people think of us primarily as road and bridge builders,” said Florida Department of Transportation District Six Secretary Gus Pego in a written statement. “We certainly broke new ground here. Early on, the federal government designated the center as a Project of National Significance and were really proud of that, and proud to have brought it this far.”

When completed, the \$1.4 billion Miami Intermodal Center will include taxi services, a bus depot and a train depot that will accommodate Amtrak, Metrorail and Tri-Rail.

In addition to creating a central location for public transportation, planners promise to cut down the daily chaos at MIA by 30 to 40-percent because people will ride a people mover to the Intermodal Center to catch a cab, a bus, or a rent a car.