

# TWA Terminal, JFK Airport

**New York, NY**

**OWNER – The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey**  
**RESTORATION DESIGN FIRM – Beyer Blinder Belle Architects**  
**and Planners LLP, New York, NY**  
**GENERAL CONTRACTOR – T. Moriarty & Son Inc., Brooklyn, NY**

**Concrete Repair**  
**and Preservation**  
**Protective Coatings**  
**Fall 2008 - Spring 2010**

## PROJECT TASK

Restore iconic concrete structure to original beauty.

## PROJECT SOLUTION

Remove existing exterior coatings, dress concrete surface with cement parge and apply waterproof, anti-carbonation coating.

## PRODUCTS

Plastermix  
 K-88 Acrylic Admix  
 Conpro Lastic  
 Elastideck  
 Super Color Stain



Top three photographs and bottom left were taken "before and during" and the bottom center and right were taken "after" the work was completed.



## PROJECT HISTORY

Eero Saarinen, an influential American architect of the first half of the twentieth century was commissioned to design the TWA terminal at then, Idlewild Airport in 1956. Along with the structural engineers Ammann & Whitney the "birdlike" structure was conceived as a complete environment where interior spaces flowed into one another without interruption. The architectural expression was intended to embody movement and transition.

The construction of the terminal required a staff of 14 engineers and 150 craftsman. The selection of a shell-type structure offered the most dramatic architectural opportunities and made TWA stand out at the airport. For the concrete framework, steel-pipe scaffolding was erected on a grid, with each vertical accurately placed to support the underside of the form at the proper elevation and position.

The successor firm to Eero Saarinen & Associates is KRJDA whose work

includes the Dulles Airport and Gateway Arch in St. Louis.

The terminal was closed in 2001 after TWA ceased to exist. DOCOMOMO-US, the Municipal Art Society of New York as well as the New York Landmarks Conservancy have been active in protecting the iconic structure. Today the beautifully restored terminal has reopened as a portal for Jet Blue Airways.