

Durable Air Filters Ensure Travelers' Comfort on Pedway at Chicago's Midway Airport

Chicago – When farmland gave way to the emerging field of commercial aviation in the mid-1920s on Chicago's southwest side, the city got its first airport, Midway. In the 1960s, the opening of O'Hare International Airport overshadowed Midway's importance to air travel. However, more recent events have revitalized Midway and its surrounding neighborhoods. Expansion plans over the past decade include five runways, now covering over 650 acres of land. Today, Midway Airport is once again a viable transportation center offering hundreds of domestic and international flights daily.

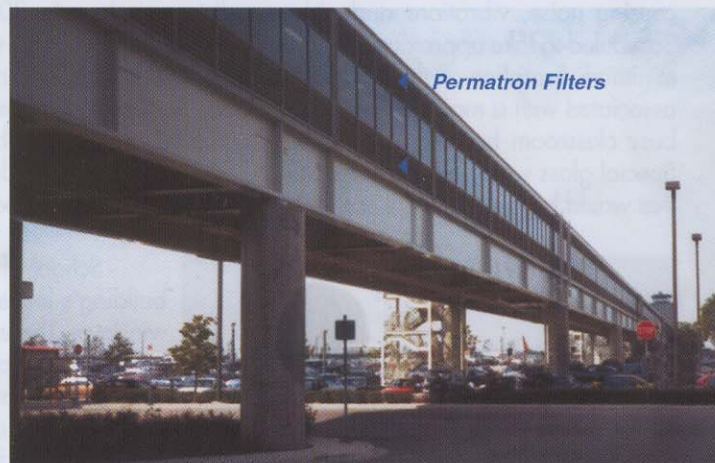
The biggest boost came when the Chicago Transit Authority opened a CTA terminal at the airport in 1993, and the Southwest Side elevated (commuter rail) line opened. It cut travel time from the area to the Loop by two-thirds. Construction of the Chicago Transit Authority's Orange Line, which directly connects Midway to downtown Chicago, led to the construction of the Pedway or people mover. This spacious, enclosed corridor safely transports travelers directly to Midway from the rail station.

The Pedway, which was designed by Harry Weese & Associates, spans 1,200 ft (366 m). The Pedway walls include windows with louvers at the top and bottom for natural ventilation. Its ceiling features exhaust fans at 100 ft (30 m) intervals. Plans called for air filters to be installed within the louvers to eliminate the potential for infiltration of rain, snow and other elements. Because the louvers open directly to the outside, it was specified that the filters could not disintegrate over time.

Electrostatic filters, manufactured by Permatron Corp. were specified for the project. Their purpose was to allow natural air flow through the Pedway and to filter out adverse elements such as dust, dirt, leaves, snow and rain. More than 600 Permatron PreVent® Model U filters were installed between the inside face of the louvers and perforated metal panels.



The Pedway at Midway Airport in Chicago has electrostatic air filters that allow natural air flow through it. Maintenance requirements are minimal, involving only washing twice a year, according to the manufacturer.



The 1/8 in. (3 mm) thick hammock style filters consist of two layers of woven polypropylene media permanently bound with a flexible vinyl edge. The filter media features an open weave that enhances free air flow through the louvers, while trapping airborne particulates. The media is resistant to microbial growth as well as to extremes of temperature, humidity, precipitation and wind.

Maintenance requirements for the filters are minimal, involving only periodic washing. At Midway, the maintenance schedule calls for a simple rinsing with water twice a year. Replacement is unnecessary for many years unless the filters become damaged.

For more information on your custom air filtration needs, contact sales@permatron.com or 1-800-882-8012. Visit our website www.permatron.com