

NEWS RELEASE

Hudson Opens New Stores, Including Its Largest Evolve By Hudson, at Chicago Midway

Hudson by Avolta Introduces Six Travel Convenience and Specialty Retail Shops to The Windy City

East Rutherford, New Jersey (Nov. 29, 2023) – [Hudson](#), part of [Avolta](#) AG (SIX: AVOL) and a travel experience leader with more than 1,000 stores in airports, commuter hubs, landmarks, and tourist destinations across North America, today announced it has opened six new retail stores at Chicago Midway International Airport (MDW).

As travelers are looking for more unique shopping experiences while traveling, Hudson is delivering a lineup at MDW that is a mix of acclaimed specialty retail brands, beloved proprietary concepts, and local favorites. This includes a sports selection sure to please all Chicago sports fans, an expanded assortment of merchandise from local vendors and entrepreneurs like Beelove, Bitoy's Sweet Treats, Brown Sugar Bakery, and Chicago Mahogany, and the largest Evolve by Hudson store in North America. At an expansive 4,400+ square feet, this one-of-a-kind Evolve store helps elevate strategic brand partnerships while giving travelers even more of what they love about shopping at Hudson stores.

This curated assortment of new stores, which joins some of Hudson's other newer concepts at MDW like [Hudson Nonstop](#) powered by Amazon's Just Walk Out technology, is part of Avolta's [Destination 2027](#) strategy to make the journey as exciting as the destination for travelers by bringing together leading brands, digital technology, and an innovative in-store experience.

"We are excited to celebrate our new openings at Chicago Midway International Airport, including our largest Evolve by Hudson store yet," said Brian Quinn, Avolta's North America Head of Retail Operations. "Our new stores present a tremendous opportunity for us to showcase the power of our global brand portfolio and how we're committed to continuously providing the best shopping experiences for our travelers and partners."

"Hudson and its local, minority partners have been true partners in delivering our ambitious vision to transform the traveler experience at Chicago Midway. Evolve by Hudson is the largest concept nationwide, and a cornerstone of Midway Partnership's \$75 million transformation of the airport's eating and shopping experience," said Sammy Patel, CEO, Midway Partnership. "The several new retail offerings by Hudson are part of our restless efforts to maximize local Chicago, minority-owned businesses, and we are doing just that with one of the highest participation levels of minority businesses in the United States." "The new stores are operated in partnership with four Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) partners: Airport Retail Group, LLC; BT II, Inc; Flying Concessions, LLC; and North American Concessions Inc.

“I am proud of Midway’s long track record of investing in diverse local businesses, with one of the highest reported Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) participation rates in the nation,” said Commissioner Jamie L. Rhee of the Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA), which owns and operates both O’Hare and Midway International Airports. “This ribbon-cutting completes our ambitious Midway Modernization Program and underscores Mayor Brandon Johnson’s ongoing commitment to supporting our diverse team of airport concessionaires at both airports, which represent a key pillar of Chicago’s economy.”

Travel Convenience:

Hudson – The quintessential one-stop shop for all travel needs, Hudson is North America’s largest travel essentials and convenience brand with a seamless customer experience at its core. Designed and color-coded for ease of navigation, Hudson delivers the lifestyle shopping experience preferred by today’s travelers, offering books, magazines, snacks and beverages, travel and convenience necessities, local souvenirs, electronics, and more.

Southside News – Whether just visiting Chicago or here to stay, this locally-inspired travel convenience store carries items such as books, local souvenirs, travel and convenience necessities, electronics, and more.

Specialty Retail:

Evolve by Hudson – Blending the accessibility of travel convenience with a specialty retail experience, Evolve by Hudson is a one-stop-shop specifically tailored to the local market. At MDW, travelers will be delighted to find shop-in-shops from Briggs & Riley, Brookstone (with Apple, Beats, Bose, and other best audio solutions), Build-A-Bear Workshop, Happy Socks, LAMY, Sunglass Hut, and Rituals Cosmetics (with luxurious home and body cosmetics), as well as local brands like Fannie May and Vosges Haut-Chocolat. Self-checkout and mobile POS are also available for quick checkout.

Jo Malone / M·A·C Cosmetics – This combination beauty store brings together Jo Malone, a British fragrance and lifestyle brand, with M·A·C Cosmetics, the pioneering makeup authority for all.

The Atrium – The Atrium provides a perfect one-stop-shop destination for the best global and local brands, gift-giving ideas, and even a little personal indulgence. Specialty retail brands featured in MDW include Brookstone (with Apple, Beats, Bose, and other best audio solutions), Caran d’Ache, Happy Socks, Herschel Supply Co., LAMY, Rituals Cosmetics (with luxurious home and body cosmetics), Sugarfina, This Works, Sunglass Hut, and Thule, as well as a unique mix of local souvenirs, apparel, gifts, and chocolates like Fannie May and Vosges Haut-Chocolat. Self-checkout and mobile POS are available for quick checkout.

TUMI – TUMI has been creating world-class business, travel, and performance luxury essentials designed to upgrade, un-complicate, and beautify all aspects of life on the move. Blending flawless functionality with a spirit of ingenuity, TUMI is committed to empowering journeys as a lifelong partner to movers and makers in pursuit of their passions.

About Midway Partnership

Midway Partnership is a joint venture comprised of some of the top companies in the aviation industry – Vantage Airport Group, SSP America, and Hudson – tasked with transforming the dining and shopping options at Chicago Midway International Airport. Midway Partnership will

invest over \$75 million to bring nearly 70 dining and retail brands to create 250 construction jobs and over 1,000 permanent new jobs and increase the total concessions area from approximately 40,000 square feet to almost 70,000 square feet. Our work will position Midway to be a leading international airport in the coming years, generate tens of millions of dollars for Chicago residents and the city, and improve the travel experience for 22 million passengers annually. For more information about Midway Partnership, please visit www.midwaypartnership.com.

For further information

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About Hudson and Avolta

Hudson is a travel experience company turning the world of travel into a world of opportunity by being the Traveler's Best Friend in airports, commuter hubs, landmarks, and tourist locations across North America. Our team members care for travelers as friends at our travel convenience, specialty retail, duty free, and food and beverage destinations. At the intersection of travel and retail, we partner with landlords and vendors, and take innovative, commercial approaches to deliver exceptional value.

Hudson is part of Avolta AG (SIX: AVOL), a leading global travel experience player. With the traveler at its strategic core, Avolta maximizes every moment of the traveler's journey through its combination of travel retail and travel food & beverage, passion for innovation and excellent execution. Avolta's well-diversified business across geographical, channel and brand portfolio pillars operates in 75 countries and 1,200 locations, with 5,500 points of sale across three segments – duty-free, food & beverage and convenience – and various channels, including airports, motorways, cruises ferries, railway, border shops and downtown. An inherent element of Avolta's business strategy is found in ESG, aiming for sustainable and profitable growth of the company while fostering high standards of environmental stewardship and social equity – making meaningful impact in the local communities. The company's access to 2.3 billion passengers each year reinforces the power of it's more than 60,000 people, committed to surprising guests and delivering solid execution, supporting the company in creating value for all stakeholders.

To learn more about Avolta, please visit avoltaworld.com, or connect on [LinkedIn](#).

To learn more about how Hudson can make your location a travel destination, please visit us at hudsongroup.com or follow our journey on [LinkedIn](#).