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NEW AUTOMATED GATES COMING TO KENTUCKY EXPOSITION CENTER

LOUISVILLE, KY (September 22, 2011) – This fall, the Kentucky Exposition Center will be adding yet another reason to visit the facility: easier entrance. Beginning the first week of October, an automated gate system goes into effect at all Kentucky Exposition Center entrance points, bringing greater efficiency and customer service when entering the facility with state-of-the-art technology.

“The Kentucky State Fair Board is continually seeking ways to improve our venues to make patrons’ visits more convenient and enjoyable,” said Harold Workman, President and CEO of the Kentucky State Fair Board. “We identified the need and took necessary steps to insure greater access for our guests.”

With an estimated 181 million Americans using credit/debit cards, it is becoming increasingly important for venues to offer guests as many choices as possible. GuardLink, based in Covington, Ky., contracted with the Kentucky State Fair Board to install the Skidata automated gate systems at all of the facility’s 21 lanes. This technology is also being used in parking garages at The Galt House and Aegon Center in Louisville, in addition to 3900 sites across the country.

Gates are equipped with attendants, intercoms and monitors to assist patrons if needed. Cameras will also cover all gates to insure the safety and accountability of both patrons and gate attendants.

Parking is \$8 for events. Gates are programmed to accept all credit/debit cards and pre-paid cards, as well as cash in the form of \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills. Nickels, dimes, quarters and dollar coins are also accepted; however pennies, \$50 and \$100 bills and foreign currency/cards will not be accepted. Patrons will receive a receipt with every transaction.

To expedite the entrance process, patrons are encouraged to have payment ready before reaching the gate. A one-time use parking coupon will be available for purchase online at www.kyexpo.org. Refunds will only be given at Gate 1, Lane 7, for those who exit within 30 minutes of entering the facility.

“We expect our patrons will embrace this new addition,” Workman said. “With the cooperation of both our employees and visitors, our automated gate system will prove to be a positive change for the facility.”

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One of the top 10 largest public facilities of its kind in the United States, the Kentucky Exposition Center features 1.2 million square feet of indoor space including Freedom Hall, an indoor arena which seats over 19,000 people. The facility's class "A" exhibit space totals 425,700 square feet and accommodates an amazing spectrum of events year round. The expo center is the permanent home for the Kentucky State Fair, the National Farm Machinery Show, and the North American International Livestock Exposition. Conveniently located adjacent to the Louisville International Airport and near the junction of three major interstates, the Kentucky Exposition Center is easily accessible and just five minutes south of downtown Louisville. For more information, go online to www.kyexpo.org.

