Once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return.”

- Leonardo da Vinci

What is it about traveling to a new destination that is so exciting? Is it waking up in the very early morning hours to catch the first flight? Is it all of the travel planning weeks or even just days ahead? How can airports be created to be more environmentally sustainable to influence the future of air travel? Air travel is becoming more and more efficient but has it reached its peak of efficiency? Could we as designers make an impact on the future of the airline industry?

This thesis project examines the environmental impacts of airport facilities while incorporating sustainable design practices to reduce the environmental impact of air travel. Incorporating green spaces and natural lighting into the architecture creates a calming environment for travelers.

My thesis site is located south of the Twin Cities, MN near the city of Hastings, MN just off highway 52.