

Media | Release

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JR Duty Free Wins Tender at Christchurch Airport

JR Duty Free has been awarded the tender for Duty Free “on airport” shopping at Christchurch International Airport (CIAL), ahead of two other bidders.

“We are pleased to announce that JR Duty Free will be the new operator effective 1 July 2010,” said CIAL Chief Executive Jim Boulton. “JR has proven its success as a duty free operator in Australia as well as Wellington and Auckland airports, so we look forward to a successful collaboration.”

JR Duty Free will be operating in two new stores in the International Terminal and plan to provide a unique Canterbury theme.

CIAL is currently preparing for a major refurbishment of the entire international airside departures retail area, and a new walk-through arrivals store.

Julie-Ann Beattie, CIAL’s Manager Commercial Development, said that the project was timed to ensure that visitors to Christchurch for the 2011 Rugby World Cup will benefit from the enhanced international offering.

“Airport planning looks many years into the future, and we are confident this development takes us in the right direction to cater for our growing number of international travellers. Redevelopment of our international areas will be complete by late 2010, providing an enhanced level of service well in advance of the two major events for this city in 2011 – the International Paralympic Games and the Rugby World Cup”, she says.

The redevelopment of Christchurch’s duty free offering will provide 865 sqm of duty free retail space in International Airside Departures, and 546sqm in International Airside Arrivals, both due for final completion in October 2010. In addition there is the existing 100sqm duty free store in International Landside Departures.

Jim Boulton believes the airport’s mix of passengers and services creates a strong offering that is unmatched in the region.

“We expect to see continued growth over the next few years in not only the core domestic travel market but also in services both at the premium end of the international market and at the high growth low fare and “no frills” end where strong retail spend can be generated. The combination of low cost carriers stimulating demand across the travel market, the stability of the legacy carriers serving the region, and the global pull of Christchurch as New Zealand’s tourism gateway is all advantageous for Christchurch Airport,” Mr Boulton said.

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For further comment, please contact:

Primary Contact

Monique Oomen

Communications Manager

Phone: 03 353 7807

Mobile: 021 450 202

Email: monique.oomen@cial.co.nz

Christchurch International Airport – New Zealand’s Tourism Gateway

Christchurch International Airport welcomed nearly 6 million passengers in 2008/2009, ranking as New Zealand’s second largest airport. The Airport occupies a unique position economically, as the South Island’s busiest and most strategic air connection to the world’s trade and tourism markets. In addition, the airport plays an important role as the South Island’s major domestic hub servicing all New Zealanders, enabling passengers to connect to a full spectrum of destinations throughout New Zealand. Christchurch International Airport is a major driver of the regional Canterbury economy, generating airport precinct related jobs for nearly 5000 people.

Christchurch International Airport is owned and operated by Christchurch International Airport Limited (CIAL). CIAL was established as a limited liability company in 1988, and ownership of CIAL is now shared by Christchurch City Holdings Limited with 75% and the New Zealand Government with 25%. The company’s vision is to be recognised as New Zealand’s leading tourist gateway.

Christchurch International Airport is a carbon neutral company and has received carboNZero certification from Landcare Research following a detailed measurement and analysis process. CIAL is the first airport company in the Southern Hemisphere to attain certified carbon neutral status and is the second carbon neutral certified airport company in the world.

Visit christchurchairport.co.nz for more information.