

# Media | Release

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## **Christchurch Airport announced as finalist in Champion Canterbury Awards**

Christchurch Airport has been announced as a finalist in the Champion Canterbury Awards, in the Champion Host category for Medium/Large enterprises. This award acknowledges outstanding contributions to the region's tourism, promotions, events, hospitality and lifestyle activities.

"As New Zealand's tourism gateway, Christchurch Airport's key objective is to support the growth of flights and visitors to the South Island," said General Manager Marketing and Business Development Gareth Owen. "We are committed to promoting our region and raising standards in our business, and we are delighted to be finalists with great organisations as Whale Watch Kaikoura Ltd and Canterbury Museum."

The Champion Canterbury Awards are in their eighth year of celebrating Canterbury business excellence, passion and success. It is the largest regional awards event in New Zealand, with attendance of 1000 guests at the gala dinner where the winners are announced on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

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### **For further comment, please contact:**

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### **Christchurch International Airport – New Zealand's Tourism Gateway**

Christchurch International Airport welcomed 6 million passengers in 2009/2010, 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](http://christchurchairport.co.nz) for more information.