

Media | Release

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Christchurch Airport nets safety award

Christchurch Airport has won a 2014 Airport Safety Award for its new health and safety reporting website, visABILITY.

It's the first time the awards have been run as part of the Australasian Airports Safety Week (29 September – 3 October 2014). Christchurch Airport won the Major Airport – NZ, Airport Safety Award.

visABILITY is a new web-based system that allows Christchurch Airport staff, to report any concerns related to health and safety instantly.

The Airport's Manager Health and Safety Katrina King says visABILITY makes reporting on health and safety incidents easier than ever before.

"It's a website that staff can access from any device – smart phones included. It means that incidents can be reported 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and that we're alerted to any incidents the instant they're reported. It's a 21st century approach to health and safety," says Katrina.

The website is unique and has attracted interest from airports and other businesses in New Zealand and Australia.

The Airport's Chief Operating Officer Andy Lester is rapt with the award.

"It is fantastic recognition from our peers and a huge pat on the back for the entire Christchurch Airport team," says Andy.

[ENDS]

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Christchurch Airport – bringing the world South

Christchurch Airport welcomed 5.7 million passengers in the past year, 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. 81% of international visitors to the South Island are welcomed and farewelled at Christchurch Airport.

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 6000 people.

Government policy currently offers 'Open Skies' over Christchurch until 2017, giving favourable consideration to airlines offering new services to and from the city.

Christchurch 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.

Visit christchurchairport.co.nz for more information.