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## Strong results for Auckland Airport



It's been another 12 months of strong performance for Auckland Airport.

Last month the company announced its annual results for the year ended June 30, including a total profit after tax of \$177.967 million, an increase of 25.1 per cent on the last financial year, while revenue increased by 5.1 per cent to \$448.458 million.

Chair Joan Withers says the airport has continued to show leadership in the development of new routes and promoted greater understanding of new travel markets.

"These successes have helped drive New Zealand's travel, trade and tourism ambitions and we are committed to playing our part in delivering on those aspirations for New Zealand."

Total dividends paid to shareholders have increased by 14.3 per cent to 12 cents per share.

Joan says the airport is optimistic about the full 2014 financial year and expects underlying net profit after tax (excluding any fair value changes and other one-off items) to be between \$160 million to \$170 million.

The year has also seen the successful transition to a new chief executive, Adrian Littlewood, and Joan says the strong and experienced leadership provided by the company's Board will also result in a successful transition in Board Chairmanship later this year.

Visit [www.aucklandairport.co.nz](http://www.aucklandairport.co.nz) for the full set of results.

## Direct flights to Perth



Passengers looking for direct flights between Auckland and Perth will have a lot more options this summer after Qantas announced it will start a new twice-weekly service for the summer peak period.

The airline will run an A330 aircraft on the route, adding almost 1000 seats a week between 6 December 2013 and 1 February 2014.

Normally more than 30 per cent of the people flying that route have to go via another Australian airport so Auckland Airport's general manager aeronautical operations, Glenn Wedlock, says making it easier is expected to stimulate demand.

"Travellers from Western Australia traditionally stay longer and tour more of New Zealand during their visit than any other Australians.

"Today's announcement delivers more capacity, choice, fare and product options for passengers. We are confident that it will be very popular with travellers and deliver for New Zealand's travel trade and tourism industry."

[www.qantas.com.au](http://www.qantas.com.au)

## Domestic terminal upgrade moves forward

Now that the improvements to the forecourt area of the domestic terminal building have been completed, it's time to move on to phase two of the \$29 million domestic terminal upgrade.



The development will ease growth pressures at the domestic terminal, meaning faster and more efficient travel journeys for passengers.

The upgrade will provide improvements to the gate access, baggage collection and toilets, as well as faster security screening, a new regional lounge and two new air-bridges. It's due to be completed by June 2014.

The completed changes to the forecourt have already improved traffic flows and parking, as well as provided increased pedestrian safety and covered canopies in the public drop off area.

Auckland Airport's acting general manager airport development and delivery, Peter Alexander, says the company will be working hard to ensure there will be minimal disruption for passengers while the upgrade is being undertaken.

Further information about the improvements is available online at [www.aucklandairport.co.nz](http://www.aucklandairport.co.nz)

## Enthusiasm for internship programme



Manukau Institute of Technology students learn about some of the retailers at Auckland Airport ahead of applying for an internship programme.

Around 60 Manukau Institute of Technology students were introduced to seven different retailers at Auckland Airport last month at an expo which was part of an internship programme.

Facilitated by the airport as part of its contribution to Auckland Council's Southern Initiative, the internship scheme is looking to build on the success of last year's pilot programme, which led to permanent employment for half the participants.

At last month's expo, students got to talk to each of the retailers and take a tour of the airport in order to help them choose which retailers they would prefer to intern with.

Students must identify their first, second and third choice on their application, as well as provide a CV.

Auckland Airport's general manager of corporate affairs, Charles Spillane, says he was impressed with the retailers' efforts as well as the number and calibre of students that attended. "We have received 40 applications this year and are very excited about the upcoming programme."

The internships are due to start in December and will continue through to the beginning of the tertiary academic year.

[www.manukau.ac.nz](http://www.manukau.ac.nz)

## Attracting more visitors from Taiwan

Increased capacity from China Airlines has led to a new Taiwan marketing partnership that will see the establishment of joint programmes worth over \$1 million in order to grow the Taiwanese market.

The airline has announced it will operate a 747-400 on its Taipei-Brisbane-Auckland route from 28 November 2013 to 28 February 2014, a move that will increase its capacity by 30 per cent.

In response, Auckland Airport and Tourism New Zealand have announced that they will double their investment in their marketing and promotion programmes in collaboration with airlines and industry partners in the Taiwan region.

The airport's Ambition 2020 strategy details a target of 24,000 visitors from Taiwan by 2020 but the success they've had to date means they may get close to this amount already this year.

Visitors from Taiwan spend on average \$3800 each when visiting New Zealand, meaning that reaching that target will deliver



an extra \$15 million to \$20 million to the New Zealand tourism economy.

Tourism New Zealand's general manager marketing and communications, Justin Watson, says he is pleased to be able to support further activity in this area.

"Our campaign work is always more effective when we work in partnership with others and it is a pleasure to see the relationship we have with both China Airlines and Auckland Airport contribute to such a positive outcome for the industry."

[www.china-airlines.com/en/](http://www.china-airlines.com/en/)

## Lady luck visits Relay

One customer at Auckland International Airport's Relay store left with more than a few magazines after winning \$250,000 on a very lucky Instant Kiwi ticket.

Samima Bano was working on the day and says it was exciting to be able to sell someone a major winning ticket.

"He [the customer] was over the moon about it," Samima says. "But I was quite nervous about making sure I put all the right information on the prize claim."



Samima Bano and Relay's New Zealand regional manager Sanjay Govind at Relay's lucky Auckland Airport store.

It's not the first time the store has proved lucky. Including this latest win, customers have taken home a total of \$310,000 from Instant Kiwi tickets over the past two years as well as one second division prize from Strike.

Relay has three landside stores at the airport's international and domestic terminals, each of which is a convenient place for airport visitors and workers to pick up any last minute items on their way home – from their favourite magazine to gifts, snacks or that lucky Lotto ticket.



 **24.9%**

The increase in the number of visitor arrivals from the United Kingdom in July 2013 when compared to July 2012.

## Chilly racing raises money



Anyone who caught a glimpse of a group of firefighters racing each other down Coronet Peak in their firefighting gear last month might have thought they were just having a bit of fun ... and that they were maybe a little crazy. But it was all for a good cause.

The firefighters were from Queenstown, Wanaka and Auckland Airport and they were raising money for Wakatipu's Bruce Grant Youth Trust in the annual Chill Factor Challenge.

The challenge: how many times can a team of skiing or snowboarding firefighters get down the slope in two hours?

It's the third year the event has been held and together the teams raised \$10,200 for the trust by collecting in their respective

terminals. All of the money raised goes towards the trust's October grants. The trust supports young people from the Wakatipu basin who want to better themselves through sports, arts and cultural fields and has given out close to \$400,000 in grants over the past 18 years.

The money raised at the Chill Factor Challenge now makes up around half of what the trust gives out each year.

While the Auckland Airport snowboarding team fought hard, they were once again beaten by their southern skiing cousins. Although, in his defence, organiser Tony Scott did point out that skiers don't have to strap themselves each time they get back to the top ... just sayin'!

[www.brucegrandyouthtrust.org.nz](http://www.brucegrandyouthtrust.org.nz)

## The District lands on Facebook



It's easy to find out exactly what's going on at The District at Auckland Airport – just head to Facebook.

At The District, the airport is creating New Zealand's best business location by making it more than just a place to work or catch a plane.

The area boasts attractions such as Butterfly Creek, Abbeville Estate and Rocket Ropes,

as well as the soon to be opened Outdoor Gallery and Runway Mountain Bike Trail. And there are still more attractions under development.

Property manager Joel Buckingham says The District's newly launched Facebook page is a fun and interactive way to share updates on key events and dates, as well as offers from retail and hospitality tenants with the local community and visitors.

"It's a fun page," Joel says. "We want to let everyone know what they can do out here beyond the time they spend at the office. We want to show how The District is growing."

Discover The District and all it offers on Facebook.

## More passengers access SmartGate

Visitors from the United States and United Kingdom who have ePassports can now use the SmartGate facility when flying out of New Zealand, speeding up the departure process.

Previously open only to New Zealanders and Australians, the automated passenger processing system has been used by six million people nationwide since its introduction in 2009, allowing Customs to focus on high-risk travellers.

Customs Minister Maurice Williamson says newly eligible passengers will be just as



impressed with how quick and easy it is to use the technology as the 50,000 people currently who use it every week.

## New warehouse for The District

Auckland Airport's Landing precinct is about to expand with the announcement of plans to build a new 3350m<sup>2</sup> warehouse on Verissimo Drive.

The standalone facility is part of a development strategy prompted by high occupancy within the Auckland Airport property portfolio and the low levels of vacancy in quality industrial space.



Auckland Airport's general manager property, Peter Alexander, says the development gives end users what they want – high stud industrial space with good operational areas, a large canopy and an office overlooking the yard area.

The build is expected to be finished in June 2014 and will include 250m<sup>2</sup> of office space, 1010m<sup>2</sup> breezeway canopy, 1838m<sup>2</sup> yard and 26 on-site car parks. It is being built without commitment.

For more information go to [www.aucklandairport.co.nz](http://www.aucklandairport.co.nz)

**688,116**

The total number of international passenger movements at Auckland Airport in July 2013, a 7 per cent increase on July 2012.

## Overland moves into The District



Auckland Airport's FLEX development has welcomed award-winning employer Overland Footwear Company – owner of iconic brands such as Overland, Mi Piaci and Merchant – as one of its newest tenant.

The company moved its distribution facility into 6 Percival Gull Place last month, taking on 1200m<sup>2</sup> of warehouse space, 120m<sup>2</sup> of office space and a 300m<sup>2</sup> canopy.

Overland Footwear Company is a privately owned family business with 35 stores and 400 employees around the country and in 2012 it was named Overall Winner and Large Workplace winner at the Kenexa Best Workplaces Awards, titles based on feedback from staff via a confidential, external process.

Australasian logistics and operations manager Iain Taylor says Overland chose FLEX for a number of reasons including its proximity to their current suppliers, affordability and the percentage of office versus warehouse space.

"The high stud height is also a desired trait," he explains. "It enables a platform for future growth and expansion without having to relocate.

"The move has gone well and our introduction to the airport has been great. Over the next few months we will continue to refine our processes and ensure we get the most out of our great new home."

[www.overlandfootwear.co.nz](http://www.overlandfootwear.co.nz)

## Keeping Auckland Airport safe

This month has been a very busy one for the Airport Police. Staff have been working as one to beat the ailments that winter brings and maintain the highest standards of service.

Police Sergeant Mark Bond found himself somewhat unexpectedly in the United Kingdom last month as a result of an urgent deportation case where an escort to London Heathrow was needed.

The opportunity also provided a great chance to cement long-term relations with some key ports in Britain, namely London Heathrow, London Gatwick and the Euro Tunnel between England and France.

Being a guest of some of the busiest passenger ports in the world was a fascinating chance to view first-hand the risks associated with policing in a country surrounded by a far higher security threshold than New Zealand.

The threats against Britain's ports have been significant for many years and, as such, their response capabilities are equally impressive. The same can be said for both the airports and the tunnel, where the risk of terrorist and organised criminal activity is ever-present.

Interestingly the non-aviation security issues at places such as Gatwick and Heathrow are exactly the same as those here at New Zealand's busiest airport: opportunist crime, organised crime and petty theft. By learning from the benchmark examples viewed in Europe we can be better placed to respond to future threats and above all prevent crime before it happens.

Crimestoppers (0800 555 111) is equally successful in Britain, in fact it started there and the benefits of real-time information, delivered with anonymity, are numerous.

Enjoy the very safe experience of visiting, working or travelling through Auckland Airport.

## Dogs sniff out criminal cash



Drug detector dogs at airports around the country will soon be trained to also sniff out large amounts of currency as part of a new method of targeting the proceeds of crime.

A recent trial of two of the detector dogs at Auckland Airport resulted in the seizure of more than \$350,000 in undeclared or concealed cash and was so successful that NZ Police and Customs are now training a total of 12 further "cash dogs".

The dogs will be able to detect cash amounts of over \$10,000, especially in New Zealand, Australian and US currencies, as well as narcotics.

Customs Minister Maurice Williamson says having the dual-trained detector dogs will increase Customs effectiveness and efficiency at the border.

The Customs-trained dogs will be in action at Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch airports, while the NZ Police-trained dogs will be based in the Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Eastern, Wellington, Canterbury and Southern districts.

Police Minister Anne Tolley says the dogs and their handlers will play an important part in bringing down crime rates.

"Crime will not pay, and these dogs will make sure of it."

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