



**AIR NEW ZEALAND**

**Media Release  
14 November 2005**

**Air New Zealand voted best Business Class Airline Australasia in  
World Travel Awards 2005**

Air New Zealand received an award for the best Business Class Airline in Australasia at the 12<sup>th</sup> World Travel Awards ceremony in London yesterday.

Air New Zealand Group General Manager Network Marketing and Sales, Norm Thompson said the airline was delighted to receive the award.

“Receiving a World Travel Award is viewed by the travel industry community as one of the best endorsements of any travel product – and winning the Business Class Airline award is particularly pleasing given that the travel industry voting for this preceded the upgrade of our business class product,” said Mr Thompson.

“Our people and the quality of in-flight service they provide has clearly contributed significantly to Air New Zealand winning this award,” he said.

Air New Zealand’s new long haul Business Premier product was revealed in July with the first of eight retrofitted B747 aircraft commencing service. The interior of the new B777 aircraft mirrors that of the B747 and includes mood lighting throughout the premium cabins.

The innovative seating design in Business Premier includes a comfortable, 22” wide leather armchair that converts into a 6ft 7.5” (2.02m) bed, the longest available in business class today. The seats also make Air New Zealand the only airline to currently offer a truly lie-flat bed at a business class price into and out of New Zealand. Other features include an ottoman footrest that doubles as a visitor’s seat, in-seat power, a high resolution 10.4” screen to view the on-demand digital entertainment system and active noise-cancellation headsets.

The Business Premier meal service features New Zealand’s finest natural produce with new look crockery and cutlery.

*Editors Note:*

The World Travel Awards were established in 1993 to acknowledge and celebrate achievers in all sectors of the travel industry and voting is undertaken by travel agencies in 200 countries. Regional geographical categories are broken down from the Whole World category into eight smaller areas - Africa, Asia/Pacific, Caribbean, Central & Latin America, Europe, Middle East, North America and South America. These are then further divided into all areas of the travel industry including airlines.

Refer [www.worldtravelawards.com](http://www.worldtravelawards.com)

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