



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**FLIGHT CENTRE NAMED AS NEW ZEALAND'S BEST LARGE WORKPLACES  
EMPLOYER FOR THE EIGHTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Flight Centre has been named the country's top large workplace employer for the eighth consecutive year in New Zealand's largest and most prestigious annual workplace survey, The JRA Best Workplaces Awards 2009.

In addition and in recognition of Flight Centre's continued achievements in the JRA Best Workplaces Survey over the past eight years, Flight Centre was also awarded the inaugural Five-Year League Award.

Sue Matson, head of Flight Centre's Peopleworks division, is delighted Flight Centre's exceptional culture has been recognised by this renowned survey and believes it is a strong endorsement of the company's unique philosophies and high value it places on its employees.

"Flight Centre's culture is paramount in everything we do. From strategic management decisions, to how we celebrate our successes, it really is all about our people and it's an honour that we have been recognised for simply doing what we love," Ms Matson said.

Ms Matson said everything from basic work place philosophies to well structured incentive systems and recruiting to fit its unique culture have had ongoing benefits at Flight Centre.

"I believe we have a truly one-of-a-kind culture. It's the work-life balance, regular celebrations and individuals having passion and ownership of their part of the business that gives Flight Centre its recruitment and retention advantage.

"Having the best employee benefits in the country means our people are happy, which is one of our most valued philosophies in the business," Ms Matson said.

All employees of Flight Centre New Zealand, which includes the well known retail stores, as well as the corporate travel provider, FCm Travel Solutions and a host of other niche brands, have access to a range of unique benefits within the business. These benefits include personal financial planning, health advice and a dedicated travel company within the business designed to plan and book travel for all employees.

Flight Centre managing director, Rick Hamilton, said that despite having almost 900 employees in 140 stores and business units across the country, there is a sense of family within the business.

“By recognising and rewarding our employees with exciting events such as our national ball, overseas conferences and unique monthly award nights, strong team bonds have formed across the business, giving Flight Centre the competitive edge and we’re extremely proud of that,” Mr Hamilton said.

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### **About Flight Centre**

Flight Centre (NZ) Ltd is New Zealand’s largest travel agency, with approximately 900 staff in more than 140 retail stores and support businesses nationwide.

Brands in the New Zealand market operated by Flight Centre (NZ) Ltd include;

Flight Centre  
Round the World  
First and Business  
FCm Travel Solutions  
Flight Centre Business Travel  
Infinity Holidays  
Escape Holidays  
CiEvents  
Stage and Screen  
Cruiseabout  
Itchy Feet Travel

Flight Centre Limited globally has almost 13,000 staff in countries including Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Hong Kong, India and China.

### **About the survey**

The JRA Best Workplaces Survey 2009 (in association with the New Zealand Herald) is the largest employee engagement survey in New Zealand. Nearly 28,000 employees across New Zealand took part in the survey across 216 organisations.

Employees rate their organisation based on 60 questions across a range of measures, including communication, culture and values, common purpose, learning and development, and reward and recognition. The responses are analysed and participating organisations then ranked on their overall score.

For more information, please contact:

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