

Media | Release

Monday, 6 September 2010 at 3:15pm

Christchurch Airport open and fully functional

Christchurch International Airport re-opened at 1.30pm Saturday 4 September after a 7.1 magnitude earthquake.

Both domestic and international terminals and the runways have been certified by engineers as structurally sound. All public areas are open and fully functional. All retail, including food and beverage outlets, are also operating as normal.

Passengers travelling to or from the airport could face minor delays and are advised to confirm their flight details with their relevant airline prior to coming out to the airport.

Christchurch Airport CEO Jim Boulton said "we have been very fortunate and received minor damage to our airport. All our key infrastructure, terminals and runways are operating as usual. Safety to all passengers, tenants and staff is our priority so we will continue to survey all areas over the coming weeks and months and we don't expect any additional issues."

Christchurch International Airport Limited's corporate office has been temporarily closed and staff have been re-located to sites within the campus. Contact numbers for all staff remain the same.

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For further comment, please contact:

Gareth Owen

General Manager Marketing/Communications

Christchurch International Airport Limited

Mobile: 021 918210

Email: Gareth.owen@cial.co.nz

Christchurch International Airport – New Zealand's Tourism Gateway

Christchurch International Airport welcomed nearly 6 million passengers in 2008/2009, 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 for more information.