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Travel Daily AU

First with the news

Fri 02 May 08

Page 1

EDITORS: Bruce Piper and Guy Dundas
E-mail: info@traveldaily.com.au Ph: 1300 799 220



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One week to vote

THIS year's National Travel Industry Awards are generating an unprecedented level of interest, with nominees lobbying hard for the industry's votes.

There's just a week left to lodge your vote at afta.com.au.

Win a Hawaii trip

THANKS to everyone who entered our Apr competition, in which Melissa Hanlon from Jetset Rose Bay won a trip to Thailand - just in time for her honeymoon!

Today we launch TD's May competition, in which a lucky reader will win a trip to Hawaii.

This month there's a different question every day, so make sure you don't miss an issue to be in with a chance to win.

See the comp on page six.



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More Japanese dramas

QANTAS is expecting a further downturn in the crucial Japanese market, and is seeing the UK as "pretty sluggish as well," according to QF sales and distribution head Rob Gurney.

Speaking at the ATEC symposium in Newcastle yesterday, Gurney said that Japan was still "hugely important" but the current slow arrivals are going to get worse.

"We don't see huge amounts of upside" in forward bookings from Japan he said, while in the UK the flat economy is also affecting consumer sentiment.

However the rest of QF's markets are OK, he said, with some very strong including South America which is rapidly growing. A US recession is likely to have global ramifications, he said, but believes Asia-Pacific will be mostly isolated from any downturn.

Gurney also revealed a new major QF branding campaign which will be run in international markets, carrying the tagline 'the world's most experienced airline' to highlight Qantas' more than 87 years of continuous operation.

The ads will run in key markets including the UK, US and Asia.

He also outlined QF's approach to aviation liberalisation, pointing out that Australia is one of the more liberal markets in the

world, allowing domestic operations by any local airline regardless of its ownership.

Gurney said there was also significant unutilised international capacity available to foreign carriers, currently equating to about 150 747s a week.

"Qantas supports a carefully paced and sequenced approach to liberalisation," he said.

The wide-ranging speech also covered aviation's small impact on climate change, with the industry in Australia only contributing about 1% of emissions.

Happy birthday TGI!

THAI Airways offices around Australia celebrated the carrier's 48th birthday this week - see the pictures on page ten.

Air NZ roles

AIR New Zealand is today recruiting for a Performance Manager in its Direct Sales division as well as a part time corporate consultant - see p9 and p11.

Travel Daily today

TD today has six pages of news and photos plus full pages:

- AA Appointments jobs
- Club Med
- Air New Zealand jobs
- Thai Airways

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Breakaway revamp

THE Breakaway Travel Franchise Group has announced a restructure, including a new senior management team and the appointment of "Siva" Sivasubramaniam to an advisory and oversight role.

Effective yesterday Charles Shaw took up his new position as gm of the group, with the aim of more than doubling its membership to 150 by May 2009.

Sales manager Karl Romeo will continue with the company alongside new operations assistant Simone Tang.

CIT Holidays restructures

LONG time Italian wholesaler CIT Holidays has restructured and launched under a new name.

The company has been operating under the CIT brand for more than 35 years, and it's not clear at this stage what the reason is for the change.

The existing outlets in Sydney and Melbourne were voluntarily terminated from Travel Compensation Fund participation this week - to be replaced by a new company known as K.I.T. Holidays.

Although very similar to the existing name, K.I.T. apparently stands for Kernot International Travel - named for the business's majority shareholders Federico and William Kernot.

The existing website at www.citholidays.com.au is still operating, but there's also one which is almost identical at www.kitholidays.com.au, listing slightly different phone contact details which weren't being

Stella marketer

STELLA Hospitality today named Ken Minnikin as its new Director of Marketing.

Minnikin was most recently chief commercial officer for MFS Living and Leisure, and has also worked as marketing director for Warner Village Theme Parks.

answered this morning.

Previously the TCF coverage was for a company called CIT Australia Pty Ltd, which on 11 Apr was renamed to the obscure 'A.C.N. 004 836 695 Pty Ltd'.

CIT actually stands for Compagnie Italiana Turismo, an Italy-based inbound operator, but the Australian operation appears to be 100% locally owned.

The Italian company's US office closed down in Dec 2004 as part of a major restructuring of its global operations (*TD* 17 Jan 05), but at the time Australian md William Kernot distanced the local operation from the travails.

Kernot wasn't able to comment on the latest move before *TD*'s deadline today.

Perth upgrade

THE owners of Perth Airport yesterday unveiled a \$1b plan to improve the choked facility which has grown rapidly due to the resources boom.

A new dedicated terminal will be built for all regional carriers, as well as an on-airport link road to cut the travel time between the international and domestic terminals by about 10 minutes.

Two new airport hotels will be built as well as a multi-storey car park which will be in operation within twelve months.

Window Seat

QANTAS head of sales and distribution Rob Gurney (see p1) gave the ATEC audience in Newcastle a unique insight into his reading habits.

Of course he's a long-time *Travel Daily* reader, but Gurney also revealed his penchant for British tabloid *The Daily Mail*.

While describing a recent front page story he'd spotted in the newspaper, he confessed that "I really only read it because it's got Fred Bassett".

ALSO at the ATEC conference, Boeing regional head Craig Saddler spoke about new aircraft technology, focusing on the upcoming 787 *Dreamliner*.

He gave a brief overview of other types of aircraft which Boeing had on the drawing board at various stages, including the 'blended wing' design pictured below.

Although the configuration has been prototyped for military use, Saddler said Boeing isn't planning a commercial version because "the industry isn't ready for 60-abreast economy yet."



VISITORS to Venice are being warned not to feed the pigeons.

The century-long tradition has come to an end, with officials banning the sale and distribution of grain to feed the birds over concerns about the damage they're doing to the canal city.

Vendors, who are all now out of a job, are outraged about the move, saying it will change the city's character.

"Sooner or later they'll take away the gondoliers," one said.

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1ndependence
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Travel Daily AU

First with the news
 on location in
Hue, Vietnam

Today's issue of TD is coming to you courtesy of VN Holidays

THE ancient city of Hue was the capital of Vietnam during the Nguyen Dynasty from 1802 to around 1945, and today it remains a major tourist destination.

Located on the banks of the Perfume River about 660km from Hanoi, the city plays host to a number of historical monuments including the Thien Mu Pagoda and the famous Citadel.

Agents taking part in VN Holidays Vietnam Educational yesterday had the chance to explore the historic destination, taking both a dragon boat ride on the river and a 'cyclo' tour of the city.

Today they'll make their way to Ho Chi Minh City, formerly known as "The Pearl of Far East Asia."

The rapidly growing modern city provides a real experience for visitors, with a combination of modern and traditional Vietnam.

Agents will take in the city's amazing shopping and will also have the chance to visit the popular Cu Chai Tunnels.

For more info on VN Holidays see www.vnholidays.com.au.

2008-09 LAN South America Airpass

LAN Airlines has released its 2008/09 South America Airpass which offers a variety of travel options within and between Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The new Airpass has six travel zones served by LAN Airlines LAN Argentina, LAN Ecuador, and LAN Peru, with prices starting at US\$99 for sectors up to 560 miles.

LAN's sales and marketing manager Australia & NZ Catalina Gonzalez said "Our Airpass offers access to renowned South American destinations" and provides countless "air route combinations which enable travellers to explore as little or as much of South America as they wish, using the LAN air network."

The new Airpass fares are valid until 31 Mar 09.

Airbus pays EK \$110m

EMIRATES received US\$110m from Airbus in the last year as compensation for the late delivery of A380 aircraft.

The payout follows a near two-year delay in the delivery of the 525-seat superjumbos, of which Emirates has 58 on order.



ABOVE: Following a 5,000km month long bicycle ride from SYD to PER, stockbroker Daryl Allen finally reached his destination earlier this week.

Allen pedalled the distance to raise funds for youthinsearch, which caters for youths from

different backgrounds & lifestyles who have emotional issues relating to a family history of drug and alcohol abuse & other issues.

Holiday Autos and Thrifty Car Rental supported Allen in his achievement, providing transport for those in the support crew.



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Applications should be forwarded in confidence to the Reservations Supervisor by email to tarra.johnson@fly.virgin.com by close of business on Thursday 8th May 2008.

Applicants not responded to within 2 weeks after the specified closing date, assumes that you have been unsuccessful in securing an interview.



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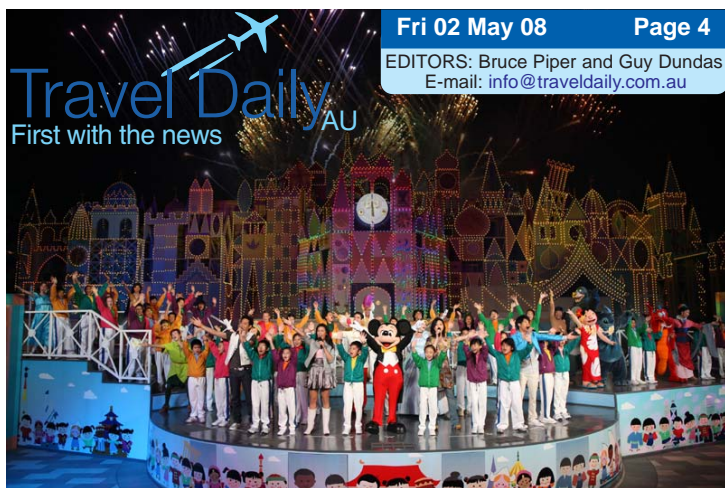
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ABOVE: Hong Kong Disneyland officially launched the much anticipated "it's a small world" Disney attraction recently.

It's expected the attraction will drive visitor numbers with its multigenerational appeal and special features including 13 spectacular scenes and the use of special effects such as UV lighting, rain projection and LED water ripples, to bring rich stories and vivid scenes to life.

The launch of "It's a small world" follows on from the recent opening of the High School Musical Celebration, the Mobile Muppet Lab and The Art of Animation at Hong Kong Disneyland.

BA confirms talks

BRITISH Airways shares surged 6.5% yesterday after it confirmed that it's exploring opportunities for cooperation with Continental and American Airlines (TD Tue).

A brief statement issued by the carrier didn't give any details, but said more information would be announced "when appropriate."

Analysts say one option would see Continental join oneworld.

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The Great Outdoors

TOMORROW night's episode of Channel Seven's travel program *The Great Outdoors* shown at 6:30pm features stories on;

- Goa to Kerala, India
- South West Drive, WA with stops at Mandurah, Bunburry and Wellington National Park
- Monarto Zoo & Cleland Wildlife Park's in Adelaide
- Magnetic Island, QLD
- Li River to Yangshuo, China
- Urban Walkabout Shopping tour in Paddington, Sydney

China's new cabin baggage restrictions

PASSENGERS travelling on domestic flights within China from 01 May should be aware of new luggage restrictions that have come into effect.

Business and economy class pax will be limited to one piece of carry-on luggage with a maximum weight of five kgs, & cannot exceed 20cm x 40cm x 55cm.

Agents are being advised to inform their clients of the change which was introduced by the Civil Aviation Authority of China.

FNQ Vision

A NEW hotel group in Far North Queensland was officially revealed to the travel industry at the ATEC Symposium yesterday.

The Vision Hotels and Resorts group aims to build on the success of The Lakes Cairns Resort & Spa, with other properties including the redeveloped Paradise Palms Resort & Country Club which is scheduled to be fully open in Dec this year.

The company's Rosie Douglas said Vision would also open the Central Park Hotel in Cairns in 2010 - the first newbuild hotel in the city for a number of years.

Jakarta airport

AUSTRALIAN company Aviation Agencies Australia is hoping to construct a new \$100m airport in Indonesian capital Jakarta, according to today's *Financial Review*.

The company aims to redevelop the unused Pondok Cabe airstrip as a low-cost airport.

Jetstar Taiwan link

THE board of Jetstar Asia will today meet in Singapore, reportedly to consider an alliance with Taiwanese carrier Far Eastern Air Transport Corp.

Far Eastern operates flights to mainland China as well as domestic services within Taiwan.

The carrier's IATA membership was suspended earlier in 2008 over an overdue payment.

A380 all the way

SINGAPORE Airlines' A380 services from Sydney to Singapore today switch to the afternoon flight SQ222.

The service leaves Sydney at 3.25pm and arrives at Changi at 9.40pm, giving it a direct connection with SQ322, the A380 service onwards to London at 11.30pm.

The schedule change means passengers are able to seamlessly enjoy A380 travel all the way between Sydney and Singapore without a lengthy stopover.



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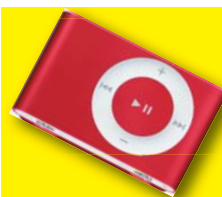
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A MESSAGE FROM ANTOR

MAY is shaping up to be a typically busy month in the travel industry.

Already there are close to 30 industry events for the month listed on the ANTOR event calendar - www.antor.travel.

That's almost one each day!

Most of these listed events are destination seminars.

As the only on-line events calendar dedicated to the travel industry it's a great resource.

It is also free of charge and easy to use.

By listing your events early you can ensure that your event does not clash with others.

You can also guarantee greater turn out in numbers and avoid unpleasant and expensive no shows.

A lot of effort goes into organising an event and an event represents a substantial investment for organisers.

If you were to itemise the cost of an event into sub-categories then add them all up the cost per person can often be in the hundreds of dollars.

In some cases a destination seminar is the major or only marketing exercise for a tourist organization within the year.

Attending a destination seminar is a great way to

improve destination and product knowledge.

Those of us who regularly organise events genuinely appreciate if participants RSVP by the due date and in case of a cancellation or an inability to attend inform the organisers as early as possible.

It's a small action but it provides an opportunity for the organisers to adjust their budget and avoid wastage.

Event organisers put a lot of effort into showcasing their destinations and products in the best possible way to suit their audiences and budgets.

Participants can influence the standard of events by providing thoughtful and constructive feedback.

Feedback is one of the key indicators of ways for organisers to make improvements for future events.

Feedback both positive and negative is always appreciated.

If you would like to list your next event or want to find out what's on in the industry in the months ahead visit

www.antor.travel.



Horizon Air to YXS

NORTH American airline Horizon Air has commenced services from Seattle to the British Columbia city of Prince George.

The once daily service will be operated on a 76-seat Q400 turboprop aircraft.

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The only way to see Vietnam



ABOVE: A famous 'cyclo' tour is a must for anyone thinking about a visit to Vietnam.

Agents taking part in VN Holidays Vietnam faml this week had the chance to explore the historic Hoi An from the front of the one of the city's 'cyclo' bikes.

Agents were excited to be cycled around the city, taking in

the key attractions and getting a glimpse of the local culture before being dropped back at their hotel in the evening.

Pictured *here* is VN Holidays' Nichole Madin addressing agents as they settled in to their cyclos.

For more details about accom and tour options in Vietnam, see www.vnholidays.com.au.

Raffles Jakarta

RAFFLES Hotels & Resorts has announced plans to construct the 180-room Raffles Jakarta, scheduled to open in 2011.

The new hotel will be centrally located in the Ciputra World Jakarta and will feature the 1,100 square metre Raffles Amrita Spa.

The Indonesian property will become the 21st luxury hotel in the groups portfolio.

Global Hotel Alliance

GLOBAL Hotel Alliance has announced the addition of four new airline partnerships, having added Emirates Skywards, Etihad Guest, Jet Airways JetPrivilege and Singapore Airlines KrisFlyer members programs.

Members can now earn 500 miles per eligible hotel stay with the carriers in 163 properties spread across 42 countries.



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Over the month of May, **Travel Daily** readers will have the chance to win a luxurious trip for two to the Hawaiian Islands of O'ahu and Maui courtesy of Hawai'i Tourism, Hawaiian Airlines and Starwood Hotels & Resorts Hawai'i.

This amazing prize includes return economy airfares to Honolulu and Maui with Hawaiian Airlines, three night's accommodation at the Westin Moana, Waikiki plus three night's accommodation at the Sheraton Maui and airport transfers.

Each day **Travel Daily** will ask a question regarding The Islands of Aloha®. To be in the running to win you must read **Travel Daily** each day and email your answer to the question featured below.

Hint! Many of the answers can be found within Hawai'i Tourism's online training site at www.hawaiitourism.com.au/kuhina.

At the end of the month, the subscriber with the most correct entries will be entered into the draw to win this fantastic trip to Hawai'i.

Email your answer each day to hawaiicomp@traveldaily.com.au.

For full terms and conditions see www.traveldaily.com.au.

Today's Hawai'i question is -

What is the name of Hawai'i's tallest mountain?



EK's Green Lakes

EMIRATES Hotels & Resorts has launched the Green Lakes Serviced Apartments, its second city based property in Dubai, and is offering introductory rates of \$230 pn - www.emirateshotelresorts.com.

Travel Daily
First with the news

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Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Travel Specials*, *Travel Daily's* Friday feature. If your firm has released a travel special you'd like to make the industry aware of send the details to info@traveldaily.com.au.

Interline Reservation Service has seats on a 6 day India Golden Triangle tour that visits New Delhi, Agra & Jaipur priced from \$352 ppts valid for travel to 30 Sep 08. Also included is a Taj Mahal and Agra Fort tour, a New Delhi and Jaipur city tour, airport transfers and private car transfers between cities. Call (02) 9700 8711.

Qantas Holidays has a six night Adelaide, Baroosa Valley and Kangaroo Island deal priced from \$635pp. The package stays at four different properties including stays at the Novotel Barossa Valley Resort and Kangaroo Island Lodge for two nights each. Available 28Apr-30Sep. See www.qantasholidays.com.au/agents.

Club Med is offering couples a \$500 saving off the regular price at Club Med Kani in the Maldives or at La Plantation d'Albion, Mauritius. All inclusive packages, based on a departure of 10 Jun from SYD & MEL to the Maldives for 7nts are priced from \$3,762 pp, or 6nts in Mauritius at \$3,875pp. See www.clubmed.com.au.



End of an era at Movie World

MOVIE World on the Gold Coast bid farewell for the final time to an icon and stalwart of the theme park on Wednesday, when the Police Academy Stunt Show wrapped up after 18,905 performances.

An all new stunt show is expected to commence at Movie World from September this year.

LEFT: Gavin Coleman & Robyn Menzies are two stuntman that have been part of the show for the past 16years.

RIGHT: Mad Mike has been a part of the show for 15 yrs and was filled with mixed emotions after performing in the last Police Academy show.

BELOW: Action charged scenes from the stunt show that have entertained thousands of tourists.



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OPERATIONS TEAM LEADER**

PERTH CBD – SALARY PKG UP TO \$70K+

Beginning as a hands on leader, consulting, you will soon be moved away to effectively manage and supervise staff, hands off! Working for this national boutique operator your travel career will flourish with new opportunities and a sensational salary package! This is a great role for a senior corporate team leader who has been waiting for the perfect opportunity to throw themselves into! GREAT ROLE!

JOIN THE BIG GUNS & BE REWARDED!

DOMESTIC CORPORATE CONSULTANTS

MELBOURNE CBD – PKG TO \$44K+

Are you an experienced retail or domestic corporate travel consultant looking for a company who will look after your needs & offer fantastic benefits just for working for them?! This global travel management company is searching for dedicated consultants to join their fun & vibrant team. With a 37.5 working hour week (M to F), 10% super, 17.5% leave loading & much more.....you will wonder why it took so long to move!

FOR ALL THINGS 5 STAR!

WHOLESALE RESERVATIONS CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE INNER CITY – PKG \$45K - \$50K

Do you consider yourself a customer service expert with strong first hand travel knowledge of either Africa / UK Europe or South America and travel consulting experience? This sensational luxury wholesaler is looking for a professional & experienced consultant to join their friendly & experienced travel team! Sell what you love without the face to face consulting! DO NOT MISS THIS 1st CLASS ROLE!

ENJOY LUNCH ON THE BEACH!

RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT

GOLD COAST – SALARY PKG TO \$52K +

Our client is looking for an experienced International Travel Consultant to join their team, situated close to the beach enjoy going to work each day! You will work Monday – Friday with rotational Saturdays (half day only) receive a base salary to \$40k + \$12k + in incentives, have great famils on offer, an established client base + ability to grow, fun and professional team and more! You must have a minimum of 5 years experience to apply + strong CRS skills.

HEAD NORTH FOR THE WINTER!

RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT

TOWNSVILLE – PART TIME OR FULL TIME

This is your chance to join an award winning Travel Company in Townsville, get out of the cold this winter and escape to where the sun is shining! You will enjoy free parking, top \$\$ clientele, flexible hours to suit your needs, excellent pay package + bonuses, famils, great team, free uniforms and more!! To be a successful candidate you will need to have a minimum of 18 months experience selling International Travel, strong CRS skills and desire to succeed!



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"I love making a difference
for our customers."

Inspiring People. Inspiring Journeys.

Part Time Travel Consultant Business Direct

Are you an experienced international consultant who is looking for a new challenge?

Are you looking for a role that allows you to balance your work and home life?

Would you like to work with New Zealand's most prestigious customers?

If so we are looking for a consultant to work part time and join our high performing team of corporate travel consultants based in Wellington. You will be responsible for maximising sales by delivering focussed, innovative travel solutions to corporate clients. You will need to demonstrate a real passion for the industry and proven experience in managing client relationships.

So if you think you have what it takes to work with the best in the industry, deliver outstanding results to an elite group of clients and have the attitude to do it all with style and flair – we want to hear from you!

We expect a lot from our people and our people expect a lot from us. After all it's our people who make us what we are. Visit us online and start your journey today, or for more information please email rachel.pedder@airnz.co.nz

Please quote reference number AIRNZ/10140 when applying.
Applications close Monday 12th May 2008.



THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL

**Celebrates 48 years
connecting Thailand with the World
Thank You for Your Support!**



On the 1st of May 1960, THAI was established as the national carrier of the kingdom of Thailand with a fleet of just three aircraft, flying to 9 regional destinations out of the capital, Bangkok. During the first year of operation, some 83,000 passengers travelled with us.

Today, 48 years on, the fleet has expanded to 83 aircraft, serving 76 destinations on five continents around the world and carries over 20 million passengers. THAI's goal in the coming years is to strengthen its standing as a trusted, first choice carrier, offering world class service with a unique Thai-style of hospitality and care.

To mark the 48th birthday milestone, a new international advertising campaign will be released with the theme "Keep The World Beautiful". The campaign highlights THAI's global reach around the globe and sends a message to the world's flyer that we need to play an active role in environmental conservation in order to preserve these beautiful destinations and to be enjoyed by future generations.

'Sawasdee - Smooth as silk', the airlines in-flight magazine has also been re-launched with a new look. The magazine is now bilingual with sections in both Thai and English—it will be available on board all THAI's domestic and international flights from May 2008.


Since 1971, THAI has been connecting Australia with Thailand and across the globe and in 2008, celebrates 37 years connecting the two countries. Expansion now sees THAI flying 40 times a week non-stop between Australia and Thailand.

With the comfort of all our passengers in mind, THAI is continuing a product upgrade for all routes and now flies a modern fleet of aircraft on the east-coast Australian routes: Boeing 777-200ER and Boeing 777-300 and on the Perth route, the Airbus 330-300.

We look forward to welcoming you and your clients onboard one of our aircraft the next time they choose to fly 'Smooth as silk'.

THAI would like to thank all our trade partners for their loyal support. Visit us @ www.thaiairways.com.au





"I love making a difference
for our customers."

Inspiring People. Inspiring Journeys.

Direct Sales – Performance Manager

Working as a Performance Manager within Direct Sales you will be responsible for the delivery and enhancement of corporate revenue through effective system implementation and reporting. Your role will involve:

- Effectively tracking and reporting financial success both online and offline
- Development and maintenance of consultant performance measures
- Managing implementation of a mid office system including required reporting to internal and external customers
- Continual process improvements and project work to achieve business objectives.

This position, and our organisation, is development focused, so you will be a highly competent, driven and decisive individual who is always seeking to improve and build on relationships and grow our strategies and services.

You will have a passion for new technologies and this combined with your commercial, financial, analytical and Travel Management experience you will be set to hit the ground running in this role!

We expect a lot from our people and our people expect a lot from us. After all it's our people who make us what we are. Visit us online and start your journey today, or for more information please email rachel.pedder@airnz.co.nz

Please quote reference number AIRNZ/10562A when applying.
Applications close Monday 12th May 2008.

