



## New Zealand HOTEL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2016

**15 March 2016**

**Media Release**

### **Entries open for NZ's premier Hotel Industry Awards**

Entries open today for the expanded New Zealand Hotel Industry Awards, with new categories recognising the key roles that go into running a great hotel, from the concierge to the general manager.

The new-look awards programme has been scaled up from just three awards to eight individual awards plus an award for a hotel showing real innovation to help neutralise its impact on the environment.

“These are the New Zealand hotel sector’s premier awards. They send a clear signal to smart young New Zealanders that the hotel sector offers many diverse jobs and an exciting career path,” says Sally Attfield, Hotel Sector Manager of the Tourism Industry Association New Zealand (TIA) which co-hosts the awards with Horwath HTL.

“This is vital given the additional staff who are going to be needed to support the hotel sector’s growth as international visitor arrivals to New Zealand accelerate.”

The hotel sector is a major contributor to New Zealand’s tourism industry, with more visitors staying in hotels than any other commercial accommodation. TIA’s 140 hotel members collectively employ 10,500 staff nationally, and generate annual revenues in excess of \$1 billion.

Stephen Hamilton, Director, Horwath HTL, says New Zealand’s hotel sector is enjoying record results and much of that is down to individuals who go the extra mile to deliver an outstanding guest experience which in turn grows profitability.

“These awards celebrate excellence and showcase a sector that is a vital contributor to the wider tourism industry, now the country’s number one export earner with ambitious growth goals to grow annual turnover from the current \$30 billion to \$41 billion by 2025.

“We are expecting a high number of entries in the awards, given the upbeat mood of many hotels around the country following a fantastic year of business.”

Entry forms and the Awards criteria can be found on the New Zealand Hotel Industry Conference website [www.nzhotelconference.com](http://www.nzhotelconference.com) – click on the Awards tab.

### **Award Categories**

Senior Hotel Executive, sponsored by AHS Hospitality  
Outstanding Young Hotel Executive, sponsored by ServiceIQ  
Administration Employee of the Year  
Concierge of the Year  
Front Office Services Employee of the Year  
Housekeeper Employee of the Year  
Revenue Manager of the Year  
Sales & Marketing Employee of the Year  
Environmental Initiative of the Year

The New Zealand Hotel Industry Awards winners will be announced at a gala dinner at The Langham, Auckland on 2 June 2016, the culmination of the 2016 New Zealand Hotel Industry Conference.

### **TIA Hotel Sector**

TIA's Hotel Sector represents the interests of almost 140 members throughout New Zealand, including international chain, large independent and privately owned hotels. TIA hotel sector members employ 10,500 staff nationally, with annual revenues of more than \$1.05 billion.

### **Horwath HTL**

Horwath HTL Ltd is part of the global Horwath HTL hotel and tourism consulting group network comprising 45 offices in 38 countries. Horwath HTL is part of Crowe Horwath International, one of the 10 largest global networks of independent accounting and advisory firms with over 560 offices in over 100 countries worldwide.

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## Key Facts

- Tourism in New Zealand is an \$81.6 million per day industry. Tourism delivers around \$32 million in foreign exchange to the New Zealand economy each day of the year. Domestic tourism contributes another \$49 million in economic activity every day
- Tourism is one of New Zealand's biggest export industries, earning \$11.8 billion or 17.4% of New Zealand's foreign exchange earnings (year ended March 2015)
- 12.1% of the total number of people employed in New Zealand work directly or indirectly in tourism. That means 295,908 people are working in the visitor economy
- The [Tourism 2025](#) growth framework has a goal of growing total tourism revenue to \$41 billion a year by 2025.

Visit [www.tianz.org.nz](http://www.tianz.org.nz) for more information.