
Gate Gourmet expands service offering in Auckland

By **Rick Lundstrom** on July, 1 2013 | Catering



Gate Gourmet announced today it is expanding its presence in New Zealand to a full-service catering and provisioning operation, which includes last-mile delivery to aircraft.

“Gate Gourmet upgraded from its previous asset-light operation in New Zealand by taking on the assets and business activities of catering provider Pacific Flight Catering (PFC),” said a release from the company. “This gives airlines operating at Auckland Airport increased access to Gate Gourmet’s customized catering offering and internationally recognized quality of service.”

At the 7,000 square-meter Auckland unit, Gate Gourmet will serve regional South Pacific and international carriers such as Fiji Airways (formerly Air Pacific), Cathay Pacific Airways, Malaysia Airlines, Air Tahiti Nui, China Airlines, Thai Airways, China Southern and Jetstar, which is the most recent addition to the customer portfolio.

“By strengthening our service offerings in the Oceania market, we are reinforcing our commitment to providing brand-differentiating menu designs and other onboard needs to airlines operating in this important region,” said Herman Anbeek, Group Senior Vice President and President of gategroup’s Airline Solutions Emerging Markets business.

The expansion is part of gategroup’s ongoing focus to strengthen its core catering and in-flight services portfolio. In the last several weeks, the Group has reached a number of onboard-related agreements with customers across its suite of brands. Examples include the retention of catering by Gate Gourmet for Malaysia Airlines’ daily Amsterdam-Kuala Lumpur flight, sandwiches for airberlin by Supplair, and Jetstar crew meals in Australia coordinated now by Pourshins, Supplair and deSter. Also, Gate Gourmet launched catering and provisioning services for Emirates new nonstop service out of Haneda, Japan, and Los Angeles.

The Group in June sold its non-core cabin cleaning, de-icing and aircraft exterior washing assets at London’s Heathrow and Gatwick airports to a provider that specializes in such service.