Official Opening

Right: Prime Minister Helen Clark officially opened the pier.

Prime Minister Helen Clark officially declared the new pier open at a ceremony on Friday 10 October. The Prime Minister unveiled a plaque commemorating the occasion in front of 150 guests who were treated to a guided tour of the new pier.

The day was also marked by the first ever visit of an Airbus A380 to New Zealand's shores. The Qantas-owned A380 literally stopped traffic when thousands of people crammed to vantage points around the airport to catch a glimpse of the double-decker aircraft that became the first aircraft to use the pier's facilities.

A380 vs B747

	A380	B747
Airbus A380 compared with the Boeing 747		
Maximum takeoff weight	560 tonnes	412 tonnes
Seats	525	416
Engines	4 Rolls Royce Trent 900 **or** 4 Engine Alliance GP7200	4 Pratt & Whitney PW4062 **or** 4 Rolls-Royce RB211-524 H2-T **or** 4 General Electric CF6-80C2B5F
Seating configuration	Two decks, two aisles per deck	Two decks, two aisles on main deck
Wing span	79.8 m	64.4 m
Length	73 m	70.6 m
Height	24.1 m	19.4 m
Range	15,000 km	13,450 km
Maximum fuel capacity	310,000 litres	216,840 litres

Testimonials

Tim Cossar, CEO
Tourism Industry Association New Zealand (TIA)

An international visitor's experience of New Zealand begins the moment they step off the plane. For many, this is their trip of a lifetime, the fulfilment of a dream to enjoy a 100% pure experience.

Auckland Airport is the first taste of New Zealand for 70% of the 3.2 million international visitors who travel here each year. I'm confident that those arriving through these new facilities will enjoy the world-class but uniquely Kiwi welcome we want all our visitors to experience.

We are delighted Auckland Airport has shown the commitment to build these new facilities to environmentally sustainable standards. A growing number of our visitors are aware of their travel impacts on the environment and we must respond to those concerns by endeavouring to show we really are 100% pure. I encourage all tourism operators and developers to follow Auckland Airport's lead in this area.

Having the capability to welcome the new generation of aircraft will be a boon to our tourism industry and we are excited we now have the facilities to enable this.

Tourism is a major contributor to New Zealand's economy and way of life, and initiatives like these will only help our sector grow and prosper. Congratulations to Auckland Airport on its new facilities.

Chris Lethbridge, NZ Manager
Emirates

It is now a little over five years since Emirates flew into Auckland Airport for the first time, marking the occasion with double daily services. By the end of that year, 2003, we had three services a day flying to Dubai and beyond, via Australia.

It was a formidable undertaking, coming on line in Auckland in such a striking way. That we were able to do so successfully was helped significantly by the willing and practical assistance we received from Auckland Airport. Since then we have seen, and been involved as a customer of the airport, in a series of developments that have lifted the operation and image of the facility in many ways.

From next year, we will be the first airline to operate scheduled Airbus A380 services at Auckland Airport, using the brand new pier. This has been an impressive project, and it will be an important element in the growth of Emirates in New Zealand, particularly as we hone in on Rugby World Cup 2011. We look forward to being a prime user of this facility and to our continued relationship with Auckland Airport.

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For more information on Auckland Airport visit **www.aucklandairport.co.nz**

Cover image: Wall slices provided by Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

Auckland Airport | Project Profile | New Pier November 2008

Our new pier experience

November 2008

New pier

Auckland Airport's latest development provides eco-friendly facilities while also making Auckland the only airport in New Zealand able to accomodate the Airbus A380.

Auckland Airport's 'green' terminal

Auckland Airport's new international pier is setting a trend in environmental design as it prepares to become one of the first buildings in the country to be recognised with a new US rating for sustainable construction (LEED*).

This innovative airport building is brimming with environmentally friendly touches that complement Auckland Airport's vision to embrace sustainability.

The completion of the new pier, which opened to the travelling public on 21 October, ends a major construction phase at the international terminal. In April 2008 a new arrivals area opened, greatly improving the welcome experience for travellers, followed by the completion of the expanded border agency screening hall in July.

Welcome mat for the A380

Four years in the planning, the new pier has been built to meet increasing traveller numbers to Auckland, and to accommodate the much anticipated arrival of aviation's newest giant aircraft, the Airbus A380. Auckland Airport is ready to roll out the welcome mat from 1 February 2009 when Emirates begins a daily A380 service between Dubai, Sydney and Auckland.

Auckland Airport is proud to be the only airport in New Zealand that can host the double-decker aircraft.

Gate flexibility

To be A380 friendly, the pier's first gates, gate 15 and 16, are specially fitted with two New Zealand made airbridges able to disembark or load both levels of the aircraft. They also provide the unique ability of being able to service two A380s or four smaller aircraft at the same time.

All travellers will benefit from the extra aircraft capability as it will reduce the number of situations where travellers are transported to and from the aircraft by bus.

In the future, as the number of international travellers visiting New Zealand shores increases, another 10 gates can be added.

Representing New Zealand

Auckland Airport strives to represent New Zealand by providing an outstanding, welcoming and uniquely Kiwi experience – the new pier is a shining example of this approach.

The arrival and departure levels of the building are adorned with touches of Kiwi flavour to welcome and farewell both New Zealanders and overseas travellers. Specially selected imagery of unique wildlife and plant life brings the great outdoors to life and hints at just some of what New Zealand has to offer.

Large windows in the pier offer an insight to the busy airport environment as well as giving stunning views of the Manukau Harbour.

On the departure level a distinctive sculpture by New Zealand artist Konstantin Dimopoulos prompts travellers to reflect on their idea of New Zealand. The series of vertical coloured rods move with the slightest breeze as if waving goodbye and wishing a safe journey to departing travellers.

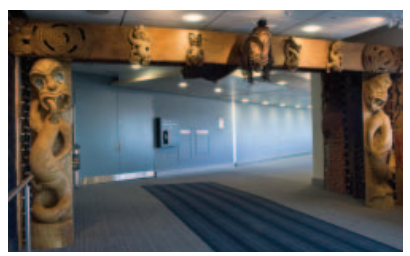
Tomokanga

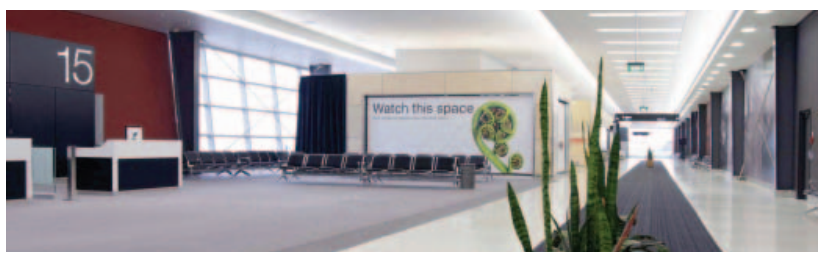
Gracing the arrivals corridor of the pier is a magnificent tomokanga (gateway) carving which was gifted to Auckland Airport by the Maori King, Kiingi Tuheitia.

Arriving travellers can marvel at this impressive cultural icon made from native swamp kauri and totara as they journey through the pier.

The tomokanga stands 2.8m high and 6m wide and symbolises a spiritual portal from one realm to another, a journey from the dark (the outside world) into the light (world of the living).

Left to right: The magnificent tomokanga welcomes arriving passengers; the spacious new gate lounge 15; large LED monitors give information on the building's 'green' features.





What is LEED?

*Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a US rating system that offers certification that a building meets the highest green building and performance measures.

A LEED building is designed and constructed to be environmentally responsible, profitable and a healthy place to live and work. Auckland Airport's new pier is built to LEED specifications and is awaiting confirmation that these standards have been met.

Green Features

Left: Solar panels on the new pier roof; solar hot water heating is used in the bathrooms; low-flow fittings in the washrooms save water.

Building a green building

Being green is not just about having a lot of eco-friendly features, but also about considering the environment throughout the whole construction process. Throughout the build plans were in place to prevent the pollution of storm water systems, to recycle all paper, glass, concrete and metal waste, and to regularly ventilate the building to remove any dust and toxic gases.

Solar panels

New Zealand's sunny climate will help light the pier through 160m^2 of solar panels on the pier's roof. The solar energy is expected to produce 29,000 kWhr every year – the same amount of energy used by two to three households annually. Energy can't be stored overnight, but during the day the solar panels produce enough energy to power the equivalent of the corridor lights connecting the new pier with the international terminal.

Solar hot water heating

Travellers using the sparkling first floor washrooms can experience hot water that is pre-heated using 40m2 of solar water panels. This is expected to save 15,000 kWhr per year.

Rain water harvesting

When the sun isn't shining in Auckland, rainwater is collected and piped to a rainwater reclaim tank farm. Approximately 4,000m^3 of rain water is expected to be collected annually and recycled for use in the air-conditioning cooling towers.

Reduced water usage

Water usage in the new pier is 40% lower than in a standard building due to low-flow fittings in the washrooms and the use of recycled water in the air-conditioning system cooling towers.

Cleaner air quality

Travellers will take a deep breath of clean air. After construction a lengthy 'flush out' period took place to reduce levels of dust, odours and chemicals typically found in newly constructed buildings. To maintain high air quality, carbon dioxide sensors throughout the area regulates the amount of fresh air circulated in the building.

Energy management

Turning off lights is a great way to save power. In the new pier lights near windows automatically switch off when there is enough natural light, and lighting in the public areas automatically reduces when the area is not being used. Energy is also saved through the use of extra insulation, double glazing and the selection of energy efficient equipment.

Eco displays

Departing travellers can 'linger and learn' at two large LED touch screen monitors near gate 15. The displays give a guided tour of what Auckland Airport is doing to be a responsible friend of the environment. A third display illustrates how much solar electricity is being produced, and how much carbon dioxide is being saved through the use of the solar panels.

Fast facts

- Floor area of new pier 6,178m^2
- Height of new pier 16.3m
- Steel used in construction 590 tonnes
- Number of internal doors 34
- Number of aircraft gates 2
- Area of external windows and doors 500m^2
- Number of airbridges 4 (two on each gate)
- Number of boarding gate desks 8

Left: The new pier has two gates with the unique ability of servicing two large aircraft or four small aircraft.