



STAR ALLIANCE™

STAR ALLIANCE VOTED BEST AIRLINE ALLIANCE AT BUSINESS TRAVELLER AWARDS

FRANKFURT, Germany, September 15th, 2006 – Star Alliance, the airline network for Earth™, was voted Best Airline Alliance at the Business Traveller Awards held in London earlier this week.

In accepting the award on behalf of the alliance and its 18 member carriers, Philip Saunders, Vice President Commercial, Star Alliance, said: “what makes this award special is the fact that the voters are bona-fide travellers, hence people who actually make use of our products and thus is testimony to the fact that we deliver the alliance customer promise consistently across our global network. There is also real significance in us winning this award in one of the world’s most competitive aviation markets, the United Kingdom.”

The awards are recognised throughout the industry as the premier honors for business travel, and span 43 categories from hotels and airlines to car rental and luggage brands. The readers of Business Traveller UK were polled between April and June 2006, with the results having been analysed by the independent research company Marketing Direction Limited.

About Star Alliance

The Star Alliance network was established in 1997 as the first truly global airline alliance to offer customers worldwide reach and a smooth travel experience. Star Alliance was voted Best Airline Alliance by Business Traveller Magazine in 2003 and 2006 and by Skytrax in 2003 and 2005. The members are Air Canada, Air New Zealand, ANA, Asiana Airlines, Austrian, bmi, LOT Polish Airlines, Lufthansa, Scandinavian Airlines, Singapore Airlines, South African Airways, Spanair, SWISS, TAP Portugal, THAI, United, US Airways and VARIG Brazilian Airlines. Regional member carriers Adria Airways (Slovenia), Blue1 (Finland) and Croatia Airlines enhance the global network. Overall, the Star Alliance network offers more than 16,000 daily flights to 841 destinations in 157 countries.