



**STAR ALLIANCE OPENS FIRST LOUNGE IN NORTH AMERICA AT LOS ANGELES TOM BRADLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Los Angeles, California – July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007 – Star Alliance, the way the Earth connects, officially opened its first customer lounge in North America today at Los Angeles’ Tom Bradley International Airport. The lounge, Star Alliance’s largest, and the biggest at the international terminal, was designed to serve the premium passengers of its member airlines flying out of Los Angeles.

Located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, adjacent to the south-side security checkpoint, the 15,000 square foot Star Alliance lounge has a seating capacity of 264 for First and Business Class passengers, including VIP rooms. This new facility replaces 12 former airline lounges used by individual airlines.

Passengers can choose to unwind in the lounge areas with food and drinks, take a shower or use the business centers in both the First and Business Class sections, which are equipped with free wireless internet connections, telephones and fax/copy/scan/print machines.

“We are pleased to offer our premium customers flying out of Tom Bradley International Terminal, an exclusive area where they can rest and relax or attend to last-minute business matters before departing on long-haul flights for major Asian and European cities,” said Jaan Albrecht, CEO, Star Alliance.

“This lounge is another example of our ‘Move under one Roof’ concept where we bring our member airlines together in a deluxe common facility so that our passengers can enjoy the benefits of the combined resources of Star Alliance carriers,” added Albrecht.

# NEWS RELEASE

This lounge in Los Angeles is the third Star Alliance-branded lounge around the world; the other two are in Zurich, Switzerland and Nagoya, Japan respectively. Star Alliance is currently developing two other lounges at London Heathrow Airport Terminal 1 and at Paris Charles de Gaulle Terminal 1, both slated to open in 2008.

The lounge is open to Star Alliance Gold members as well as First and Business Class passengers holding a ticket on any of the six resident alliance airlines operating from the international terminal: ANA, Asiana, Lufthansa, Singapore Airlines, SWISS and THAI. These six airlines offer 74 weekly international flights out of Los Angeles.

Passengers at the lounge will be able to enjoy an assortment of food and beverages from the home countries of the resident Star Alliance airlines. There will be a rotating selection of premium wines, champagnes and beers from the USA and also from Germany, Korea, Japan, Switzerland, Singapore and Thailand. Depending on the time of day, appropriate breakfast, lunch and dinner foods will be served, including hot soups, noodles and sushi.

The Star Alliance lounge was designed by HOK, an international design firm with offices in Los Angeles, and constructed by Swinerton Builders. It is the first alliance lounge to open at the Tom Bradley International Terminal, where Star Alliance has the largest presence among the alliances.

At LAX, the 10 Star Alliance member carriers operate 4,800 weekly flights to 58 cities within the U.S. as well as to 39 international destinations in 25 countries.

From the United States, 16 Star Alliance member carriers – Air Canada, Air New Zealand, ANA, Asiana Airlines, Austrian, bmi, LOT

Polish Airlines, Lufthansa, Scandinavian Airlines, Singapore Airlines, South African Airways, SWISS, TAP Portugal, THAI, United and US Airways – offer more than 3,770 weekly international flights to reach 86 international destinations in 50 countries. Star Alliance elite customers have access to more than 650 airport lounges worldwide.

High quality photos will be available for downloading in the press room at [www.staralliance.com/en/press/media\\_library/index.html](http://www.staralliance.com/en/press/media_library/index.html).

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 and US Airways. Regional member carriers Adria Airways (Slovenia), Blue1 (Finland) and Croatia Airlines enhance the global network. Air China, Shanghai Airlines and Turkish Airlines have all been accepted as future members and are expected to join Star Alliance soon. Overall, the Star Alliance network offers more than 16,000 daily flights to 855 destinations in 155 countries.