



Media Release
14th November, 2006

Five Stars for Christchurch's Outrigger at Clearwater Resort

Christchurch's Outrigger at Clearwater Resort has been awarded 5 Star Hotel status by Qualmark, New Zealand tourism's official quality assurance agency. Assessed, for the first time, against Qualmark's robust independent third party criteria, the assessor described the accommodation offering as "quality throughout", also making special mention of the properties 'Quay Room'.

Qualmark CEO Geoff Penrose said, "I am pleased to welcome this property to our licence holder family, and to the ranks of the quality assured. That the Outrigger at Clearwater achieved this level of excellence after its first assessment, speaks volumes about the dedication of their business development team. This property is among the best available in New Zealand".

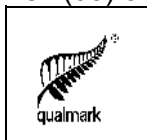
This incredible offering sits with the renowned Clearwater Golf Course, home of the NZPGA, within hundreds of acres of manicured grounds and clear lakes. In 2002 Clearwater was awarded a City of Christchurch Environmental award, recognising its outstanding contribution to the local environment. Ecological planning has played a pivotal role in the development of the Clearwater's design approach, seeing an alliance with Environment Canterbury and the Christchurch City Council to restore local streams and walkways.

Outrigger at Clearwater Resort's General Manager, Ken Harris said, "We're absolutely delighted to have a respected quality assessment agency such as Qualmark, judge Outrigger at Clearwater Resort as 'exceptional', and I am extremely proud of my team for their uncompromising levels of service and commitment to guests. The operation sits under the Outrigger Hotels & Resorts brand, one of the Pacific's leading resort operators, and is the first hotel ever to be nominated as a finalist in the host category of the 2006 Canterbury Champion Awards.

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