

Media release: 18th December 2006

News of the decision by Air New Zealand to commence a direct Invercargill – Wellington flight schedule commencing 2007 was warmly welcomed by the Chamber of Commerce.

“The direct Wellington link using the new efficient Q300 aircraft service can’t happen soon enough” said CE.O Richard Hay “Finally the lobbying has paid off; it is a very positive step for the region”.

“For to long Southland business has had to struggle with working on air travel timeframes that did not meet the needs of the region.”

“The current scheduled departures and connection flights are a hindrance to effective commuting and to doing business.”

“We look forward to the commencement of the new service which if scheduled cleverly will get Southland business into the capital without the downtime and holdup costs which are currently being experienced.” He said