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SSP UK Wins AOA 'Best Service Provider' Award with Manchester Airport



Food Travel Experts, SSP UK has been awarded the title of “Best Service Provider” by the Airport Operators Association (AOA) for its work with Manchester Airport at last night’s AOA’s Annual Conference. Playing a lead role in promoting aviation security, economic development and environmental sustainability, the AOA champions the continued successful development of British airports and aviation. The awards event has been celebrating the best working partnerships within the UK airport industry for the past three years with SSP UK winning an award each year.

Following the conference, the black tie event was held at the Hilton Metropole London and hosted by travel expert, Simon Calder. Attended by over 200 delegates from across the industry and related businesses, it attracted record numbers of Managing Directors and senior level delegates. The winners, decided by the AOA Board, were selected for their outstanding work in their particular field.

Beating Halcrow and ASM, Debi D’arcy Bean, SSP UK Client Relations Director accepted the accolade and commented: ‘It is a real honour to receive an award that reflects our affiliation with Manchester Airport. It is a relationship we are particularly proud of and one that we hope continues to grow as we both aim to provide our customers with the highest level of quality through product, location, service and operational excellence.’

Since its partnership began, SSP UK has understood the need to add commerciality as well as experiential value to a thriving airport such as Manchester. With fifteen outlets in operation, SSP UK provides quality facilities to cope under the pressure of delays and changing flight patterns, increasing its commercial appeal to airlines, potential business partners and passengers.

This year alone, SSP UK has opened seven new units. Each of these new additions was carefully selected with the aid of a unique Location Profiling System that was born out of a bespoke consumer insights focused piece of research and is a testament to SSP UK's breadth of offering. Also in response to this era of economic uncertainty, SSP UK launched the world's first ever global, crossbrand consumer value campaign in the food travel sector, TravelWise. The programme focuses on delivering value to consumers and offers positive solutions to the challenges faced by the industry.

Andrew Harrison, Commercial Director Manchester Airport said, "This year, Manchester Airport has unveiled its £50 million redevelopment of Terminal 1, designed entirely with our passengers in mind. Every aspect of the passenger's journey through the airport was thoroughly researched and reshaped from check in to security to the catering offer. In this respect, SSP were an ideal business partner in that they fully supported our vision and worked with us to provide first class, wide ranging products that fit the needs of all our passengers. We have worked together with SSP for around 20 years and we continue to be proud partners in creating a world class airport catering experience".

Ends

Editor's notes:

ABOUT SSP UK

SSP UK operates over 610 retail and catering outlets including restaurants, pubs, bars and coffee shops at 22 airports and 115 rail stations throughout UK and Ireland.

ABOUT SSP

SSP, the Food Travel Experts, is the leading dedicated operator of food and beverage brands in travel locations worldwide, with operations in more than 125 airports in 30 countries and over 60 years of experience. Its unparalleled and ever evolving portfolio of international, national, local, specialty and new breakthrough food and beverage brands includes its own national and international brands. Among these are Caffè Ritazza, Burger King, M&S Simply Food, Bonne Journée, Caviar House & Prunier, Pizza Hut, Upper Crust and Le Train Bleu. SSP has operations in airports, train stations, retail parks and conference centres.

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