## AIR TAHITI NUI LAUNCHES FIRST-EVER NONSTOP SERVICE BETWEEN NEW YORK & SOUTH PACIFIC

## Air Tahiti Nui selects JFK's Terminal 4 for flights to Papeete starting July 4th 2005

**NEW YORK, NY – Feb. 10, 2005: Air Tahiti Nui** – ranked Best Airline for the Pacific in the 2004 Skytrax airline survey – will create a new milestone in travel when it launches historic non-stop service from New York to the South Pacific beginning July 4th, 2005.

Air Tahiti Nui, which maintains a fleet of new Airbus A340-300 aircraft, will operate on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays from John F. Kennedy International Airport's Terminal 4 with nonstop service to Papeete, Tahiti. From Air Tahiti Nui's home base in Papeete, travelers will have the option of continuing on to Sydney, Australia, via the simple, one stop connection.

"With feeder markets from Washington, D.C., to Philadelphia and Boston, New York is the gateway for the entire Eastern Seaboard of the U.S., and by eliminating the need for an overnight or connection in Los Angeles, our historic nonstop service will put Tahiti and the South Pacific within reach of same-day travel beyond its traditional West Coast markets," said Nelson Levy, Chief Operating Officer of Air Tahiti Nui. "This is an important development not only for us but for U.S. travelers in search of practical alternatives to the traditional Caribbean and Hawaiian holidays."

Air Tahiti Nui, the international flag carrier of French Polynesia, links four continents to the South Pacific including France, Japan, New Zealand and the United States.

"JFK Terminal 4 welcomes Air Tahiti Nui to New York," said Henk Guitjens, chief marketing officer of JFK IAT LLC, which operates Terminal 4. "And we're confident that Terminal 4 is a great match for Air Tahiti. Not only is it the most modern and efficient terminal in the New York area, but Terminal 4 allows its 50 airline partners to focus on their core business while providing high customer service levels for the passengers. In addition, with the only internal AirTrain station at JFK, Terminal 4 is the most convenient for passengers connecting to other terminals, long-term parking, car rental and hotel accommodations, as well as public transportation to New York City."

Air Tahiti Nui will serve the route with its modern fleet of exclusive Airbus A340-300 aircraft, uniquely suited for long-haul flights, seating 294 passengers in spacious, comfortable three class configurations, six in first class, 24 in business class and 264 in coach class – never more than two seats across, each featuring an individual video screen – and in what is widely acknowledged to be one of the quietest cabins in the air today. The non-stop flight is approx 12 hours from New York and 12 hours 45 minutes returning from Papeete.

## About AIR TAHITI NUI

Air Tahiti Nui, with a route network linking the South Pacific to four continents, is the leading carrier to French Polynesia. The airline has headquarters in Papeete and operates from Faa'a International Airport on the island of Tahiti. The company was

founded in 1996 and commenced flight operations in 1998. The Government of French Polynesia is the major shareholder in the airline along with Tahitian private investors.

In addition to winning top Pacific airline honors in the prestigious annual Skytrax survey – which drew more than 2 million responses from international airline travelers worldwide in 2004 – Air Tahiti Nui was ranked in the top five in the Cabin Staff category, ahead of Singapore Airlines, All Nippon Airways and others.

The website (<u>www.airtahitinui.com</u>) can help travelers plan their trips to French Polynesia plus book flights and vacation packages in the South Pacific islands including Tahiti, Bora Bora, Moorea, Huahine, Raiatea, Taha'a, Rangiroa, the Marquesas and the Tuamotus plus for Paris, Auckland, Sydney, Tokyo, and Osaka. Check featured specials for Honeymoon packages, Cruises, and Diving.

For more information on schedules and fares, contact 212 922 1860 or 1 866 835 9286, visit your local travel agent, or Air Tahiti Nui online at <u>www.airtahitinui.com</u>.

## About JFK Terminal 4

The \$1.4-billion terminal, which opened in May 2001, has an annual passenger volume approaching six million air travelers.

More than 50 domestic and international carriers representing 40 countries call the 1.5 million square-foot terminal home in New York, including, Aer Lingus, Aerolineas Argentinas, AeroSvit, Air India, Air Jamaica, Air Luxor, Air Santo Domingo, Allegro, American Trans Air, Asiana, Avianca, Biman Bangladesh, BWIA, Copa, Corsair, EAAC, Egypt Air, El Al, Emirates, Ghana, Independence, Israir, JAT, jetBlue, KLM, Kuwait, LACSA, Lan Chile, Lan Ecuador, Lan Peru, LOT Polish, LTU, Malev, Mexicana, Miami Air, Monarch, North American, Northwest, Omni International, Pakistan, Singapore, Swiss, TACA, Tarom, Transmeridian/TravelSpan, Universal, USA3000, Uzbekistan, Varig, Virgin Atlantic and World.

JFK IAT is the first private, non-airline consortium selected by the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey to develop and manage an airport terminal.

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