

## **DOWN UNDER ANSWERS JOINS USTOA**

NEW YORK – May 8, 2014 – Terry Dale, president and CEO of <u>The United States Tour Operators Association</u> (USTOA), announced today that <u>Down Under Answers</u>, one of North America's top providers of leisure travel to the South Pacific, has joined the association as its newest Active Member, bringing its current total to 50 corporate members representing more than 150 brands.

"With highly personalized service, seasoned destination specialists and a deep expertise in the South Pacific, Down Under Answers and its portfolio of brands are welcome additions to USTOA," added Dale.

"We, as well as our family brands Africa Answers and Air New Zealand Vacations, are delighted to join USTOA," said Kirk Demeter, Down Under Answers' president. "Down Under Answers has always been a customer service oriented company and to give our clientele the additional security and confidence associated with being a USTOA member takes our service one step further."

Founded in 1992 in Seattle, Washington, Down Under Answers offers customized vacations to Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, ranging from unique, experiential holidays tailored to suite style, taste and budget, to pre and post cruise itineraries, shore excursions, escorted tours, destination weddings and honeymoons, voluntourism opportunities and more.

In 2009, Down Under Answers added Africa Answers to its portfolio, expanding its customized travel offerings to African countries. Three years later, in 2012, Air New Zealand contracted Down Under Answers to represent its vacation division in the United States. Down Under Answers, Africa Answers and Air New Zealand Vacations all provide highly personalized service to travel agents working with their brands and consumers experiencing their offerings firsthand.

Down Under Answers is located at 400 108th Ave, Suite 200, Bellevue, WA 98004. For more information on Down Under Answers, visit <a href="www.duatravel.com">www.duatravel.com</a> or call 800-788-6685. More information on Down Under Answers' family brands can be found at:

- Africa Answers: www.africaanswers.com or call 866-427-2540
- Air New Zealand Vacations: www.airnewzealand.com/vacations or call 1-800-866-9886

For questions and more information on USTOA, visit <a href="www.ustoa.com">www.ustoa.com</a>, call 212-599-6599, or email <a href="mailto:information@ustoa.com">information@ustoa.com</a>.

## **About USTOA:**

Representing more than \$11 billion in revenue, the member companies of U.S. Tour Operators Association provide tours, packages and custom arrangements that allow six million travelers annually unparalleled access, insider knowledge, peace-of-mind, value and freedom to enjoy destinations and experiences across the entire globe. Each member company has met the travel industry's highest standards, including participation in the USTOA's Travelers Assistance Program, which protects consumer payments up to \$1 million if the company goes out of business.

As a voice for the tour operator industry for 40 years, USTOA also provides education and assistance for consumers and travel agents. For more information about USTOA, visit ustoa.com, call 212.599.6599 or email <a href="mailto:information@ustoa.com">information@ustoa.com</a>.

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