

PRESS RELEASE

Sodexo takes off with new Emirates Aviation Experience

22 August 2013

Sodexo, the world's largest services company, has been contracted to provide front-of-house, catering and retail services at the UK's first public-facing commercial flight simulator tourist attraction which opened this summer.

The Emirates Aviation Experience, located at the south side of the Emirates Air Line in North Greenwich, is the UK's first and only exhibition dedicated to modern aircraft, and offers visitors the chance to 'fly' an Airbus A380 – the world's largest passenger airliner.

Sodexo is providing front-of-house and ticketing services, cleaning, the retail shop, and the onsite café, offering an international menu in line with a global dining theme, and Rhodes of Greenwich baked goods and cakes.

Over 20 jobs have been created for the new Sodexo contract, with 80 per cent of recruits coming from the local community through the Newham Workplace initiative.

Every staff member undergoes a full week's induction, including detailed, two-day customer service training.

The Emirates Aviation Experience features the world's first public-facing commercial flight simulators including two Airbus 380s and two Boeing 777s, utilising full landscape visuals and allowing participants to practice their take-off and landing skills.

Sodexo has an existing partnership with Emirates, managing their customer lounge as part of a larger contract at Gatwick Airport.

Jeremy Dicks, managing director, Sodexo Prestige Sports and Leisure, said: "The café design reflects a modern, clean, contemporary high-end retail environment and our menu offers a global dining theme in line with the all-round experience. We are proud to be working with the Newham Workplace scheme to provide employment opportunities for the local community. We look forward to building on our partnership with Emirates at this exciting new London tourist attraction."

Christian Waltl, mobilisation manager at Emirates Aviation Experience, said: “Sodexo was selected via a competitive tender because of their track record as a high-quality service provider not only in catering but also in facility and operations management. Their service is key to position the Aviation Experience as one of the leading new visitor attractions within the London leisure market.”

Ends

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About Sodexo

Sodexo in the UK and Ireland

Sodexo employs over 35,000 people, and delivers quality of life services to clients at some 2,300 locations in the corporate, healthcare, education, leisure, justice and defence sectors.

With an annual turnover of over £1bn, Sodexo delivers a range of facilities management services ranging from catering, cleaning, reception to asset management, security, laboratory and grounds maintenance services, enabling clients to focus on their core business.

Sodexo Motivation Solutions in the UK provides benefit and reward services such as SayShopping vouchers; public benefits; and employee benefits such as childcare vouchers and engagement surveys.

Sodexo Group

Founded in 1966 by Pierre Bellon, Sodexo is the global leader in services that improve Quality of Life, an essential factor in individual and organisational performance.

Operating in 80 countries, Sodexo serves 75 million consumers each day through its unique combination of On-site Services, Benefits and Rewards Services and Personal and Home Services. Through its more than 100 services, Sodexo provides clients an integrated offering developed over more than 45 years of experience: from reception, safety, maintenance and cleaning, to foodservices and facilities and equipment management; from Meal Pass, Gift Pass and Mobility Pass benefits for employees to in-home assistance and concierge services.

Sodexo's success and performance are founded on its independence, its sustainable business model and its ability to continuously develop and engage its 420,000 employees throughout the world.

Key Figures (as of August 31, 2012)

Sodexo in the world

18.2 billion euro consolidated revenue

420 000 employees

20th largest employer worldwide

80 countries
34,300 sites
75 million consumers served daily
9.5 billion euro market capitalisation (*as of November 7 2012*)