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## **CO-OPERATIVE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT GROWTH CONTINUES DESPITE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN**

The Co-operative Travel Management is bucking the downwards trend in business travel and reporting an excellent start to 2009.

As the inaugural Business Travel Week begins (9 – 13 February: [www.business-travel-week.com](http://www.business-travel-week.com)), The Co-operative Travel Management has revealed that clients are continuing to travel despite the difficult economic circumstances, and that the business continues to meet its targets. This comes at a time when the majority of travel management companies are reporting business travel down by as much as a quarter.

Anthony Rissbrook, Head of The Co-operative Travel Management, is confident of a strong performance throughout the year: “We are now really seeing the advantages that a broad mix of clients from both the public and private sectors can bring to a TMC within a clear overall strategic plan,” he said.

“That plan is well advanced, although we are still anxious to develop new regional offices in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and a number of key cities in the UK. This fits with our strategy to support business within the local community and provide exceptional personal service with value for money transacting.

“In addition, we are also benefiting from the association that our business has from being part of The Co-operative Group, which is widely recognised as one of the most trusted and sustainable brands in the UK.

“It is testament to our forward planning that we look set to go from strength-to-strength in 2009, and hopefully improve upon our position as the tenth largest business travel provider in the UK,” concluded Rissbrook.

Ends

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