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More byte for less buck at Heartland & Scenic Hotels

Scenic Hotel Group has today announced a revolution in guest internet services.

From the end of November, the Group is slashing by two-thirds its standard cost of wireless and fixed wire internet plans in all 17 Heartland and Scenic Hotels. It's also introducing uncapped data at faster download speeds with as many as four devices per room, making for huge improvements in the way guests interact globally as they travel, says IT Manager Piers Hutchings.

"We've come up with a unique structure that gives us the ability to offer 24-hour internet at just \$10. It's good old fashioned kiwi-ingenuity at its very best."

Mr Hutchings says the cut in cost doesn't equate to a cut in service. "In fact, if anything, both fixed and wireless speeds will be faster.

"We're the first hotel chain in the country to utilise the faster VDSL technology where it's available, which means the majority of our properties will have speeds of up to 50 Mbps. Our offering includes 24-hour free technical support and uncapped data – although we will apply a fair use policy to ensure a great user experience."

The upgrade also involves a shift in platforms for the Group. "All our internet kiosks are moving to Apple iMacs which ensures internet access for those who don't have their own devices," says Mr Hutchings. A one-hour plan will be available for purchase at \$5 for use in the kiosks.

"We think this drop in cost is what our corporate guests have been crying out for.

"It's also a great bonus for families – we can do a 'per room' charge of \$20 for 24 hours that will include up to four devices in the same room. So Mum and Dad can upload their family photos to flicker on their laptops while the teenager updates their Facebook status off their smart phone and the dog plays online on their PSP – all for one flat fee."

Scenic Hotel Group is the only 100% New Zealand owned hotel chain in the country and has 17 properties throughout New Zealand. The Group has recently expanded into the South Pacific.

#ENDS

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