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There's no need to arrive at the airport hours early. Clear members only require a few minutes to pass through security. All that time saved means you can sleep a little longer, arrive a little later, or give your best client a few extra minutes of your time.

### **Unsurpassed customer service.**

Our attendants and concierges will assist you as you pass through the Clear checkpoint. Imagine: first-class treatment without ever leaving the ground.

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Clear lanes are now open at many major airports throughout the country—and are coming soon to many more.

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For more information visit, <http://www.flyclear.com/index.html>

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## Delta Announces 2009 SkyMiles and WorldPerks Benefits

### *Airline aligns programs to create consistent experience, more customer benefits for world's premier loyalty program*

(Dec. 4, 2008) – Delta Air Lines has announced elite and reward changes to both the Delta SkyMiles and Northwest WorldPerks programs to better align member benefits.

Beginning in 2009, the programs will offer segment qualification, currently a WorldPerks benefit, to allow members to reach elite status by flying a designated number of flight segments on either Delta or Northwest operated flights.

Additionally, SkyMiles and WorldPerks members will continue to earn a minimum of 500 Elite Qualifying Miles and base miles per flight, making Delta the only major airline to maintain this minimum for all customers.

## NWA: WorldPerks Bonus Miles

**NWA WorldVacations** is pleased to announce that WorldPerks Bonus Miles **now qualify on Delta Air Lines** coded flights. This gives you more opportunities to create value and travel savings for your clients with NWA WorldVacations.

Your clients are eligible to earn up to **2500 WorldPerks® Bonus Miles** on a standard NWA WorldVacations package and if you book a **luxury vacation** through NWA WorldVacations LIFESTYLE Collection featuring Luxury they will receive **7500 WorldPerks Bonus Miles**. These Bonus Miles are in addition to credited flight miles.



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**Continued: Delta Announces 2009 SkyMiles and WorldPerks Benefits**

“Delta’s merger with Northwest creates a unique opportunity to build the world’s premier loyalty program for our customers, including providing access to more frequent flyer destinations around the world and adding new benefits,” said Jeff Robertson, Delta’s vice president of Loyalty Programs. “Delta’s 2009 loyalty programs will distinguish themselves from the industry with the return of segment qualification for Delta SkyMiles members, the availability of complimentary upgrades on both airlines for SkyMiles and WorldPerks members, and valuable Elite Threshold Rewards.”

Qualification requirements for Elite status in 2009 will be as follows:

<b>Level</b>	<b>2009 Qualification Requirements</b>
Silver	25,000 Elite Qualifying Miles or 30 Qualification Segments
Gold	50,000 Elite Qualifying Miles or 60 Qualification Segments
Platinum	75,000 Elite Qualifying Miles or 100 Qualification Segments

Elite status enables members to receive additional program benefits, including complimentary upgrades, mileage bonuses, priority boarding and preferred seating. SkyMiles and WorldPerks elite members now have the ability to receive complimentary upgrades on both airlines. Complimentary upgrades are subject to availability and offered on most Delta and Northwest flights within or between the 48 contiguous United States, Alaska, Bermuda, Canada, the Caribbean, Central America, Mexico and northern South America.

SkyMiles members will qualify for Medallion® Threshold Rewards when they surpass Platinum Medallion status. As members reach designated thresholds (to be published in early 2009), they will earn additional bonus miles and/or other exclusive benefits or gifts. Northwest WorldPerks members will continue to enjoy similar Elite Extra Perks program benefits when they surpass the Platinum qualification requirements.

In an effort to closely align the two loyalty programs' benefits, Northwest WorldPerks will introduce three-tiered award availability and SkyMiles and WorldPerks members will have the ability to transfer miles between their respective accounts in early 2009.

Delta plans to merge both programs to create the world's premier loyalty program in late 2009. More information on these and other SkyMiles benefits is available at [delta.com/skymiles](http://delta.com/skymiles). Details on the Northwest WorldPerks program are available at [nwa.com/worldperks](http://nwa.com/worldperks).

The award-winning Delta SkyMiles® program offers members multiple mileage-earning opportunities when flying Delta, Delta Shuttle®, the Delta Connection® carriers, Delta AirElite® and other SkyTeam® airlines. Additional mileage-building opportunities are offered through more than 100 partners such as the Delta SkyMiles Credit Card from American Express, participating hotels, car rental companies, the SkyMiles Store, restaurants, SkyMilesShopping.com, floral and gift retailers and more. Now in its 27th year, SkyMiles is one of the longest-running and most successful loyalty programs in the travel industry. It was named "Best Domestic Frequent Flyer program" for 2007 and 2008 by readers of *Executive Traveler* magazine and "Best Frequent Flyer Program" for 2006 and 2007 by *Business Traveler* magazine. The program also received top honors for "Best Bonus Promotion" from *InsideFlyer* magazine at the 2007 Freddie Awards.

## **Fewer Workers Tack on Vacations to Business Trips**

**Weak Economy and Concerns About Travel Perks Mean Fewer Mix Business and Pleasure**

**By Barbara De Lollis, USA TODAY**

December 8, 2008

Fewer business travelers are expected to bring their spouse, kids, golf clubs or sightseeing shoes on future business trips, new studies and booking trends indicate.

The down economy means fewer people can afford to tack on vacation time to a trip, and fewer people are willing to risk the negative perceptions that may exist about travel perks, says Peter Yesawich of Ypartnership, an Orlando-based travel research and marketing firm.

The economy is expected to speed the decline in dual-purpose trips, he says, but the trend has been falling out of favor for about seven years.

Only about 30% of business travelers said they brought along their spouse or kids — or just added some alone time — before, during or after a business trip in the past year, according to the Ypartnership/Yankelovich National Leisure Travel Monitor released in May. In 2000, 60% said they'd combined trips. Yesawich estimates the rate would be even lower today. "People would say, 'It's all about serious business now,' " he says.

Michael Steiner of Ovation Corporate Travel, a Manhattan-based agency, says Ovation's corporate clients are especially cutting their weekend stays on domestic trips.

"Last year, they were more apt to stay a Friday and Saturday night, but this year, they're coming home," he says.

Phil Lapp, a snack foods sales manager from Lancaster, Pa., who's on the road about half the time, says he hasn't combined trips in several years, due to the increasingly competitive business environment and the demands of having two young children, ages 4 and 2. He doesn't plan to do anything differently next year.

Traveling now is difficult enough, but when you factor in trying to coordinate family schedules with business meetings, it creates a chaotic and sometimes distracting environment," he says.

Reasons fewer people are combining trips:

- Appearances.** Travelers are more aware of co-workers' and superiors' attitude toward perceived perks as companies slash jobs and expenses, says Michael Batt, chairman of Travel Acquisitions Group, the parent of Travel Leaders travel agency chain.

### Continued: Fewer Workers Tack on Vacations to Business Trips

"Even though it's entirely justified and OK, it gives the wrong message at this particular time," Batt says. He estimates that less than a third of people who would've done this a year ago would still do so today. Extravagant travel, such as when the Detroit auto company CEOs flew to Washington in corporate jets to ask for bailout money, stands out today, he says.

•**Pressure.** With travel expenses increasingly scoured by chief financial officers instead of travel managers, business travelers feel greater pressure to produce results to justify their expenses, Yesawich says. Travelers are also reducing their trip length due to new or newly enforced company travel policies to cut costs, which further discourages extending trips for personal reasons, Steiner says.

Frequent traveler Kevin Cox of Plainview, N.Y., used to add vacation days and fly his wife down to Orlando, where he occasionally has business. They would visit Disney World or SeaWorld, he says. But these days, they're taking fewer dual-purpose trips, even though it saves them money on airfare. Cox says he's unsure whether combining trips could have repercussions in this climate. "Does the boss hold it against you?" he wonders. Co-workers could also view it as a perk that they don't get.

•**Desire for down time.** Randy Bates of Waukesha, Wis., says he finds it more relaxing "to spend vacation time by itself and not intermixed with work." Nick Milburn, an auditor from Sarasota, Fla., who hasn't combined trips in eight years, also says the hectic pace of a business trip isn't as conducive to vacations. He says he sees more stressed faces in airports.

"It's my sense that a lot of us business travelers are on tight time frames to get the week's assignment of work completed and get back home to meet the needs of home life," Milburn says.

Travelers won't see many hotels trying to encourage these types of trips anymore, because they're focusing harder on retaining non-discretionary business trips, Yesawich says. "Most travel suppliers are just grateful to have the core business — the business trip itself," he says.



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**Continued: Fewer Workers Tack on Vacations to Business Trips**

Some hotels and destinations, however, continue to see opportunity. Seattle, which has eight *Fortune* 500 companies based in the region and has a healthy convention business, expects to keep drawing more dual-purpose visitors, says Tom Norwalk, CEO of Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau. More business travelers, for instance, have been tacking on cruises before and after their trips, he says.

And the Cambria Suites at the airport at Savannah, Ga. — where a night's stay costs around \$100 a room — has continued to see around 15% of business guests stay an extra day, even during the stock market's meltdown, says Hal Smith, the hotel's general manager. Some guests bring golf clubs to play in the area, though most stay longer to take tours and enjoy the city's historic district, he says.

Since the trend has endured this fall, Smith next year plans to offer new golf and tour packages to help offset the decline in business travel.

"That will encourage people to stay an extra day," Smith says, "so instead of leaving Thursday afternoon, they might stay through Friday or Saturday."

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## New WorldClub and Crown Room Prices

Extracted from [www.nwa.com/worldclubs](http://www.nwa.com/worldclubs)

As we move ahead with the Northwest Airlines® and Delta Air Lines® alignment, we've amended several WorldClubs® membership rates and policies. Rest assured that you'll continue to have uninterrupted access to our worldwide network of Delta Crown Room Clubs and Northwest WorldClubs.

Please view our updated WorldClubs membership rates below, or visit [www.nwa.com/worldclubs](http://www.nwa.com/worldclubs) for more details. We look forward to continuing to serve you far into the future.

Membership Type	New WorldClubs Rates Effective December 15, 2008			
	Base	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Initiation Fee*	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
One-Year Membership	\$450	\$400	\$350	\$300
One-Year Spouse/Domestic Partner Add-On	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Three-Year Membership	\$1215	\$960	\$840	\$720
Three-Year Spouse/Domestic Partner Add-On	\$600	\$480	\$480	\$480
30-Day Trial Membership	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90
60-Day Pass	Discontinued			
Lifetime Membership**	Discontinued			
*For new WorldClubs one-year and three-year memberships, or memberships that lapse for more than 6 months.				
**We will continue to honor current lifetime memberships.				