



Press Release

October 9 2006

**Travel Counsellors voted 'Best Travel Agent' in
annual Guardian, Observer and Guardian Unlimited Awards**

Travel Counsellors has been named the UK's Best Travel Agent at the 20th annual Guardian, Observer and Guardian Unlimited travel awards as voted by readers. Voting was rated on quality of service with Travel Counsellors scoring a highly impressive 99.29% overall – the highest total percentage of any company in the awards.

The awards, which took place in Cape Town, South Africa at the weekend (7th October), are based on the longest running survey of its kind with over 15,000 completed questionnaires received.

A new entrant in the awards, Travel Counsellors beat three times winner Trailfinders to take first place, beating their score by 8.57%.

Travel Counsellors is one of the UK's largest independent travel companies, with over 670 professional travel counsellors, working from home throughout the UK and Ireland. David Speakman, Chairman of Travel Counsellors said: "We are delighted to have been voted winners of this award. Travel Counsellors attracts the cream of the industry and the winning of this award is a public acknowledgement from our customers that the level of service we offer is a cut above the competition. To be scored so highly on the quality of the service is down to the hard work and dedication of our home based Personal Travel Counsellors who believe in going the extra mile for their customers each and every time. "

Mr Speakman added: "I firmly believe that for travel professionals who share our commitment to customer service, there is no better place for them to build their own business than as part of Travel Counsellors."

For further information on Travel Counsellors, or to find a Personal Travel Counsellor in your area visit www.travelcounsellors.co.uk



To read more on the awards visit www.guardian.co.uk

About Travel Counsellors: Travel Counsellors PLC is one of the UK's largest independent travel companies with turnover at the end of its last financial year (Oct 312005) of £150 million, a 17% increase year on year. Founded by chairman David Speakman in 1994 it currently has over 670 travel consultants who work from home with the support of over 120 staff at the company's head office in Bolton. In the UK Travel Counsellors places all customer money in a Trust account which guarantees a 100% refund in the event that a supplier collapses. The company also operates in Ireland, the Netherlands and the US. Travel Counsellors was the winner of the prestigious Queen's Award for Enterprise in 2003 and the winner of the technology category of the 2005 CBI Growing Business Awards.

ENDS

For further press information contact:

Helen Furnivall, Public Relations Manager

Travel Counsellors Plc, Travel House, Churchgate, Bolton, BL1 1TH

www.travelcounsellors.co.uk

Tel: 01204 536047

Email helen.furnivall@travelcounsellors.com