

## New Zealand Prime Minister Headlines AlignOrg Solutions' Business Leader Breakfast

Wellington, New Zealand (FPRC) June 18, 2009 – John Key, New Zealand's Prime Minister, was the keynote speaker at an AlignOrg Solutions' affiliate – Grafton Consulting Group – gathering. Mr. Key used the opportunity with business leaders to address current economic issues.



Key challenged business leaders to improve productivity compared with peers in the OECD. With the global economic crisis, New Zealand is finding overseas funding sources scarce. To avoid a drop in the country's credit rating, which would make it harder to source funds overseas and push borrowing rates up, Key believes it is necessary to improve productivity within the country. In the state sector, for example, productivity is constrained by a lack of investment in technology. Key said that university students looking to repay their loans are unable to access loan balances on-line.

Despite the challenges, the Prime Minister highlighted several key opportunities to grow the country's economy – food, tourism, and education. He noted that 53 million Chinese travel overseas on holiday each year and only 118,000 come to New Zealand. Out of 25 million hectares of arable land in New Zealand, only 600,000 (2.4%) is irrigated. The food production capacity of the country is massive if more land can be irrigated.

The Prime Minister mingled with guests at pre-breakfast coffee, then during breakfast moved from table to table, sitting for a few minutes at each, discussing issues raised at each table.

"The opportunity to interact with the Prime Minister one-on-one at our tables was extraordinary." said Andrew Nugent, Director, Aritech Innovations Limited. Because attendees found the event informative and engaging, AlignOrg Solutions and its affiliate, Grafton Consulting Group, have committed to sponsoring similar learning events globally in the future.

AlignOrg Solutions is an international consortium of organization design specialists who help business leaders make strategic trade-offs, design organizations for growth, and manage change. In addition to its world-class consulting services, AlignOrg Solutions is a noted educator of organization design tools and methodology having trained over 2000 HR professionals. Recently, AlignOrg Solutions' "Differentiation by Design" workshop was certified by HRCI for credit hours toward PHR, SPHR, and GPHR re-certification. AlignOrg Solutions works with trusted partners such as Grafton Consulting Group in New Zealand to deliver complimentary services to clients. Learn more about AlignOrg Solutions at [www.alignorg.com](http://www.alignorg.com).

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