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new zealand

# retail



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## UP FROM THE ABYSS

Retail upswing predicted

### RETAIL DETAIL

Facelift your store

### RETAIL SUPPORT

Exit management

### RETAIL PROFILE

Larrikin marketing 101!

### E-RETAIL

Search – but will you find?



## LUXOTTICA TO EXPAND INTO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Italian-based fashion eyewear retailer Luxottica Group S.p.A. has announced a long-term joint venture for the Australian and New Zealand markets with Essilor International, a leader in ophthalmic optical products. Under the terms of the agreement, the joint venture will manage Eyebiz Pty. Ltd., Luxottica's Sydney-based optical lens finishing laboratory, which will now be majority, controlled by Essilor. Eyebiz will continue to supply all of Luxottica's retail optical outlets in Australia and New Zealand, including OPSM, Budget Eyewear and Laubman & Park. The Eyebiz management team will remain in place and report to the new board, comprised of both Essilor and Luxottica representatives.



## SPRING-FREE TRAMPOLINE VOTED BEST

The brainchild of a Christchurch engineering associate professor, Keith Alexander, has just been voted top children's product by American families. The Springfree Trampoline came to life after Keith's wife said "no" to getting a metal-framed and sprung trampoline for their children because of safety fears and suggested he design a safer option. It first became available in 2003 and is now expected to sell more than 150,000 globally this year. New Zealand companies manufacture the fibreglass and plastic components which comprise 70 per cent of the final product.

SOURCE: NZ Herald



## STOMP INTO THE RIGHT FIT

Stomp Kids Shoes, recently opened at Botany Town Centre, is entirely dedicated to providing the right measure and fit in children's footwear and features an extensive range of quality brands for infants to teens. Founder Daren Leng says its staff are podiatrist-trained to fit the right shoe at the right age from infants to teens. Stomp Kids Shoes is located in Garden Lane, opposite Pumpkin Patch.

## JOHNNY'S HITS TOWN



One international restaurant chain is bucking the trend with a global expansion plan that will soon bring it to New Zealand shores. The classic all-American burger chain, Johnny Rockets, is offering the exclusive rights to an area development agreement for 10 Johnny Rockets Restaurants with the help of the business brokerage Switch Business. Steve Devine, Senior Vice-President of International Development says "Johnny Rockets is an iconic concept, blending fresh American cuisine and culture. The opportunity cost for 10 restaurants in New Zealand is US\$300,000." Johnny Rockets will work hand-in-hand with our selected franchisee to identify the best locations within New Zealand. To find out more, contact David Newport at Switch Business Limited on: (09) 377 7735 or e-mail: david@switchbusiness.co.nz.

## NEW TRELISE ECO BAGS

Following on from the success of last year's designs, two new limited-edition designer eco bags from fashion designer Trelise Cooper are available in Countdown, Woolworths and Foodtown stores. Priced at \$4.99, the designer bags are part of Progressive's ongoing initiative to promote reusable eco bags to provide shoppers with an alternative to using plastic bags. "I designed two very different bags for summer," said Trelise Cooper.



"The hibiscus design is reflective of our beautiful pacific landscape and the polka dots have always been one of my favourite fun designs."

## KIWI TECHNOLOGY TAKES ON NEW YORK

One of America's leading universities, New York University (NYU), will utilise Kiwi MoleMap technology to advance skin cancer research and help find new ways to detect melanoma earlier. The Charles C. Harris Skin and Cancer Unit, a teaching hospital at NYU's Langone Medical Center will now have access to 1000s of Kiwi and Australian melanoma case studies for their residents and researchers to examine. The unit has adopted the MoleMap (branded 'MoleSafe' in the US) software and database. The MoleMap programme combines digital dermoscopy, total body photography and sequential monitoring to gather valuable information that is then analysed by a specialist dermatologist to help identify melanomas which could potentially be overlooked during a conventional clinical examination. Over the last seven years the MoleMap network of clinics, utilising their advanced technology, has conducted more than 120,000 examinations on 62,000 patients, imaged and diagnosed in excess of 1 million lesions, identifying close to 1,000 melanomas. Melanomas are often hard to spot and they can appear in the mouth, nose, eyes, stomach and even under fingernails.

