

**Draft Holding Statement  
September 2007**

**With *SayShopping* gift vouchers, Sodexo sets a new standard in  
financial security of Gift Vouchers**

Following the recent developments with counterfeit gift vouchers, Sodexo reassures its customers and clients, that *SayShopping* is the most financially secure multi-retail shopping voucher in the UK today.

Sodexo's *SayShopping* vouchers have a number of sophisticated security features that minimise fraudulent use. Sodexo is continuously monitoring and developing ways to ensure *SayShopping* vouchers are kept foolproof. Retailers are pleased to accept *SayShopping* vouchers, as Sodexo provides staff with clear security guidelines, ensuring a genuinely secure voucher service.

Sodexo is also the only voucher issuer that does not use voucher money as working capital (i.e. to fund the running of the business). This means that when clients buy *SayShopping* vouchers, Sodexo does not treat the money as their own. The money cannot be invested in anything that could lose value, therefore *SayShopping* customers can feel safe in the knowledge that all financial risk has been eliminated.

As a leading global issuer of service vouchers and cards, Sodexo has over 1 million affiliated partners and 16 million voucher recipients worldwide. With 27 years of international experience of the voucher and card business, operating in 27 countries, Sodexo's voucher and card systems are the most reliable and financially secure available anywhere. Indeed, Sodexo has set new standards in security for the gift voucher and card industry by controlling and underwriting all vouchers in circulation.

Kevin Harrington, Research & Development Director at Sodexo says: 'The Sodexo Group has over 27 years of international experience in vouchers and cards. This means that we have the expertise and innovation to provide our customers with total financial security and peace of mind. Through ongoing research and monitoring, we intend to keep our 100% track record of a totally secure gift voucher service, intact.'

**ENDS**

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Notes to Editors:

- Sodexo is the world's largest integrated facilities management services organisation and leading global issuer of service vouchers and cards. In the UK Sodexo provides innovative food and management services to businesses and industry, including the education, healthcare, leisure and defence sectors, employing 48,000 people in 2,300 units nationwide.
- Worldwide, Sodexo has 27 years of international experience of the voucher business, operating in 27 countries, with over 1 million affiliated partners and 16.4 million voucher recipients. Last year, the company was named the UK's 'Childcare Voucher Provider of the Year 2006' by *Employee Rewards and Benefits* magazine.
- SayShopping was launched in September 2006 and to date has 46 retail brands as partners in sectors ranging from fashion and cosmetics to days out and holidays.
- The voucher website is [www.SayShopping.co.uk](http://www.SayShopping.co.uk) SayShopping information line: 01276 418888. Email: [Info@SayShopping.co.uk](mailto:Info@SayShopping.co.uk)