



# MEDIA RELEASE

22 October 2007

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## Aerodrome Emergency Exercise - "Hot Jet 07"

Alice Springs Airport Pty Ltd is holding an Aerodrome Emergency Exercise "Hot Jet 07" on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2007 commencing at 1700 hours. The exercise is intended to practice emergency procedures before, during and after an aircraft crash at Alice Springs Airport. The exercise also aims to ensure that local responding agencies are familiar with their roles as well as the airport, and that current procedures are functional and appropriate.

The following agencies will be participating in the exercise:

- Alice Springs Airport Pty Ltd
- Qantas
- AirServices Australia Rescue & Fire Fighting
- Australian Federal Police
- NT Police
- NT Fire and Rescue Service
- St John Ambulance
- NT Emergency Service
- Bushfires NT

The exercise scenario is that during the take off of a Boeing 737-800, the aircraft ingests a flock of Australian Pratincoles causing it veer off the runway. The aircraft comes to a halt at approximately 1710 and Air Traffic Control activates the crash alarm. At this stage the exercise begins with a mock aircraft on fire in the vicinity. There are deceased and critically injured passengers, as well as "walking wounded" passengers who have disembarked the aircraft and are disoriented and confused. Over 40 volunteers will be participating as casualties and passengers of the flight.

The immediate response to the crash will be from the on-airport services including Airport Safety Officers, Australian Federal Police and the Aviation Rescue and Fire Fighting Services.

At this time the call out to the outside agencies has been made and the agencies are responding to the Emergency Vehicle Reporting Area at the airport. Outside emergency services will be escorted to the crash site to manage and treat the casualties.

Don McDonald (Alice Springs Airport General Manager) will be available for comment prior to the exercise on 08 89 511 211.

Media personnel must register expression of interest to observe the exercise by contacting Ilma Thorne on 08 89 511 202 no later than 1700 on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2007 (to allow for security requirements to be facilitated). A bus will transport media personnel to the crash site at 1630 on the day of the exercise.

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