

Monday 30th June 2008

TIGER AIRWAYS SEASONAL ADJUSTMENTS TO DARWIN FLIGHTS

- Melbourne/Darwin capacity still higher than previous year
- 18 Melbourne/Darwin and Darwin/Singapore services per week

Tiger Airways has announced a reduction in flights to Darwin effective 1st September 2008. Tiger Airways will reduce services on the Singapore/Darwin and Melbourne/Darwin sectors from daily to four per week.

While the news of the reduction of services is disappointing, Northern Territory Airports' CEO Ian Kew acknowledged that both sectors had grown very rapidly since December last year. "The Melbourne/Darwin sector had increased from 6 to 24 flights per week, while Singapore/Darwin increased from 14 to 21 flights per week. Even after the adjustments to Tiger Airways' flights, we will maintain 18 flights per week on each sector". In seat capacity terms, Melbourne/Darwin seats will be up by 198% compared to last year, while Singapore/Darwin capacity is up 50%.

Mr Kew added, "There is no doubt that it is a very difficult operating environment for all airlines, as has been demonstrated by capacity adjustments by all airlines across other parts of Australia. But we need to maintain some perspective on the seasonal adjustments by Tiger Airways, a practice which is common by other airlines operating in the Darwin market."

Northern Territory Airports has enjoyed a long term partnership with Tiger Airways, and the seasonal adjustments will in no way hinder the evaluation of new service opportunities. Darwin was Tiger Airways' first Australian destination from Singapore, with services having commenced in December 2005. Darwin was the first sector to be announced from its domestic hub in Melbourne and in March 2008 Tiger Airways also commenced three per week Melbourne-Alice Springs services.

Ian Kew
Chief Executive
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