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Media release

Regional NSW big winner from Newcastle Airport's upscale investment

Thursday, 06 June 2019

Northern NSW is set to benefit through further investment as Newcastle Airport signs a \$50million debt facility agreement with ANZ Bank.

A direct, sustained economic benefit to the Hunter and beyond will come through major infrastructure projects funded through this five year facility. The increase in passenger traffic facilitated by these investments will provide an enduring economic boost for the long term.

Planned future projects include a significantly enhanced terminal, expanded car parking facilities and essential airside facilities, such as a new apron, taxiway and aircraft parking bays, all of which will allow the airport to meet growing passenger demand.

The facility will also help fund stage one construction of the Airport's Astra Aerolab development, Newcastle's globally significant Defence and aerospace hub.

Speaking today, Newcastle Airport CEO Dr Peter Cock said the region deserved an airport that was striving to fulfil its potential.

"Our catchment takes in a large part of northern NSW which sustains the state's biggest regional economy and we see one of the airport's key roles as realising further potential, and future opportunities," he said.

"It's vital we play our role in building prosperity and diversity into the economy. This debt facility allows us to turbo-charge development of both the airport and Astra Aerolab."

"Thousands of additional jobs will be generated over the next 5 years, both directly and indirectly, on the back of significant passenger growth and continued investment in our precinct."

"The Astra Aerolab development will stimulate demand for highly skilled jobs in our region and provide the NSW economy with a massive boost."

The recently commenced Stage one of the Astra development launched by the Deputy Premier John Barilaro, is part funded by the NSW Government and includes construction of an access road, roundabouts and the provision of electricity, water and sewer services. Once complete, Defence contractors will be in a position to move into the precinct.

Ends.



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Further information

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Notes for the Editor:

Newcastle Airport <https://www.newcastleairport.com.au/>

Newcastle Airport Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ntlairport/>

Newcastle Airport Twitter Feed: <https://twitter.com/NTLairport>

Newcastle Airport Master Plan: <https://www.newcastleairport.com.au/corporate/about/masterplan>

Astra Aerolab <https://astraerolab.com.au/>

About Newcastle Airport

- > Named 'Major Airport of the Year' at the 2018 Australian Airports Association Industry Awards.
- > Newcastle Airport is the second international gateway into New South Wales and the second busiest airport in the state.
- > Serviced by Jetstar, Virgin Australia, QantasLink, Regional Express, and FlyPelican to eight direct domestic destinations and onward to more than 65 worldwide destinations.
- > Newcastle Airport is the gateway to Australia's largest regional economy, with more than \$43 billion annual output and 48,500 businesses.
- > A significant economic driver, Newcastle Airport contributes more than \$1.1 billion to the state's economy each year. Of this, \$300 million is direct to the visitor economy, supporting 3,300 jobs.
- > On 22 March 2018, Newcastle Airport released its 60-year Master Plan, which includes a 20-year blueprint for growth, projections and business development of the Airport.
- > Newcastle Airport Pty Ltd is jointly owned by City of Newcastle and Port Stephens Council and is governed by an independent, skills-based Board of Directors.
- > FY17/18 passenger results saw Newcastle Airport break its all-time FY record with 1,272,634 travellers passing through the terminal.
- > A record-breaking 4,823 passengers travelled through Newcastle Airport on Thursday 24 November 2018 (the day before Newcastle Supercars). The same weekend (Thurs-Mon), saw more than 21,000 through the Airport.
- > In December 2018, Newcastle Airport welcomed its 18 millionth passenger through the terminal since 1995.