



MEDIA RELEASE

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QUEENSLAND AIRPORTS WELCOMES QANTASLINK'S MOUNT ISA-TOWNSVILLE EARLY COMMENCEMENT

Queensland Airports Limited (QAL) welcomes the news from Qantaslink that it will commence flights between two North Queensland Airports, Townsville and Mount Isa, starting today.

This service, which was due to start in March, has commenced early following the announcement on Friday that MacAir has officially closed.

Townsville Airport General Manager, Mr Kevin Gill, said the early service commencement was a very welcome announcement.

"This is an incredibly timely response by Qantaslink to the capacity crisis currently being faced in Townsville and Mount Isa.

"This daily service between the two ports will be vital for passengers left stranded after MacAir went into receivership and with roads currently cut due to flooding, and will provide certainty for passengers considering future travel," Mr Gill said.

The current week day service will operate until March 2, at which time the full schedule of 11 return services each week will commence.

"This is great news for both Mount Isa and Townsville, and as significant North Queensland hubs we congratulate Qantaslink for taking up this sound initiative.

"The new service will meet current passenger demand within the mining and resource industries as well as providing ease of access to those customers travelling for recreation, health, education and business between the two regions," Mr Gill said.

The new Qantaslink service will offer more than 80,000 seats per year into and out of the two regions, operated by a 72-seat Bombardier Q400 aircraft. Qantaslink schedule from 9 February to 2 March is as follows:

Mon/ Tues
0710 TSV 0850 ISA
1000 ISA 1130 TSV

Wed
1040 TSV 1220 ISA
1320 ISA 1450 TSV

Thurs/Fri
1455 TSV 1635 ISA
1735 ISA 1905 TSV

ENDS

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