



Gold Coast Airport MEDIA RELEASE

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GOLD COAST AIRPORT ANNOUNCE NEW CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Gold Coast Airport parent company, Queensland Airports Limited (QAL), has appointed Marion Charlton to the role of Chief Operating Officer of Gold Coast airport.

Ms Charlton has an impressive track record with 30 years' experience in the aviation industry within Australia and overseas.

Today's announcement follows a restructure which has seen the departure of seven employees across the group, including former Gold Coast COO David Collins, as the airport group moved to better align its business with strategic priorities.

"We are looking to the future, and with our airport expansion plans and the Commonwealth Games in 2018 there is no-one with more experience in this field," said QAL CEO Chris Mills.

"Marion knows first-hand what we will need for 2018, having worked in the Atlanta and Sydney airports during the 1996 and 2000 Olympics, and she was in Glasgow during the 2014 Commonwealth Games," Mr Mills said.

Ms Charlton has been with Gold Coast airport for 11 years, and oversaw the most recent airport terminal expansion which was completed in 2010.

Ms Charlton said it was an honour to be appointed to the role.

"This is an exciting time for the Gold Coast, and we are investing significantly in our airport with major redevelopment plans over the next few years. Our terminal expansion will support our forecast passenger growth in the coming years, and we are working through plans for further property development across the precinct.

"This investment is on the back of strong growth in passenger numbers for the September quarter, welcoming 1,564,189 passengers through the airport. This is an increase of 5.7% on the previous year," Ms Charlton said.

Ms Charlton has strong ties with many Gold Coast tourism organisations through her past work on the Tourism Advisory Board for Bond University. She is currently on the advisory Board for Southern Cross University Business School. In 2008 she was awarded the International Woman's Day Leadership Award for the Gold Coast.

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