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MEDIA RELEASE

GROWTH FOR ALL QAL AIRPORTS IN OCTOBER

The Queensland Airports group reported its busiest October in history with outstanding results recorded at each airport.

QAL group airports on the Gold Coast and in Townsville, Mount Isa and Longreach all recorded an increase in the month, collectively growing 3.6 per cent on October 2016 to deliver more than 763,000 passengers.

A summary of results is provided in the table below:

| Airport | October 2017 | October 2016 | Growth |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Gold Coast | 593,808 | 582,577 | 1.9% |
| Townsville | 149,110 | 136,033 | 9.6% |
| Mount Isa | 17,172 | 15,222 | 12.8% |
| Longreach | 3,018 | 2,739 | 10.2% |
| Total passengers | 763,108 | 736,571 | 3.6% |

Totals exclude transit passengers.

QAL CEO Chris Mills said Gold Coast Airport delivered its busiest October and third busiest month on record, beaten only by January 2016 and 2017.

“The international market was a standout, with close to 24 per cent growth on last year thanks to an increase in services to Hong Kong,” Mr Mills said.

“Domestically we are looking forward to Tigerair commencing up to four weekly return services to Hobart next month. This is a win for the airport and the region, providing a direct connection between the two tourist destinations in time for the peak summer period.

“Gold Coast Airport is currently undersized and while this will inhibit further significant passenger growth in the short term, we look forward to delivering our terminal and apron expansion projects to ease congestion and open up new opportunities.”

Townsville Airport saw an increase of nearly 10 per cent on October last year, cementing its strong performance for the financial year to date.

“Townsville Airport recorded its busiest month ever in July, so it is pleasing to see the momentum is being maintained with domestic, regional and international markets all delivering growth on last year,” Mr Mills said.

“We did see a boost in traffic over the NRL grand final weekend which delivered an increase of 16 per cent in passengers on prior year.”

Strength on Mount Isa’s Brisbane and Cairns services prompted close to 13 per cent growth for the airport in October.

“October was Mount Isa Airport’s ninth consecutive month of growth, putting its financial year to date growth at 9.1 per cent year on year.”

Longreach also performed well, delivering the airport growth of 10.2 per cent.

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