

24 May 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

QAL CONTINUES RECORD BREAKING STREAK

Queensland Airports Limited (QAL) has continued its record-breaking streak, facilitating its busiest April ever, an increase of 1.6 per cent on the year prior.

QAL airports on the Gold Coast and in Townsville, Mount Isa and Longreach collectively facilitated 722,168 passengers in April, representing an additional 11,207 passengers across the four ports.

The performance of Mount Isa and Longreach airports stood out, with passenger increases of 14.5 per cent and 36.3 per cent respectively, on the previous year.

A summary of April results is provided in the table below:

Airport	April 2018	April 2017	Growth
Gold Coast	570,104	559,306	1.9%
Townsville	132,325	134,881	-1.9%
Mount Isa	16,418	14,337	14.5%
Longreach	3,321	2,437	36.3%
Total QAL passengers	722,168	710,961	1.6%

QAL CEO Chris Mills said momentum in Mount Isa continues to build, with an additional 2,081 passengers passing through the airport this April, compared to the year prior.

“Mount Isa’s positive performance this month came on the back of added capacity on the Cairns route, and strong demand on Brisbane services,” he said.

“Resource related activity in and around the region is again a contributing factor to this month’s success.”

Longreach Airport’s stellar performance is attributable to added capacity on its Brisbane service for Winton’s Way Out West Fest.

Gold Coast Airport had seen continued growth in the New Zealand market, with April delivering a comparable number of passengers between the two destinations as last year’s ski season.

“It follows 9.8 per cent growth in March and firms up our position as a destination of choice for New Zealand visitors. The Gold Coast is second only to Sydney in terms of inbound leisure visitation to Australia from New Zealand,” he said.

“It is Gold Coast Airport’s seventh consecutive month of growth, with an additional 10,798 passengers on April 2017, and comes on the back of the airport’s busiest March on record.”

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Mr Mills said there were positives out of Townsville Airport's April result, despite the slight decline in passenger numbers.

"We expected the dip in passenger numbers on the back of the cessation of Bali services in March and the change in timing of when Easter fell this year," he said.

"It is pleasing however to have completed a full year of Port Moresby services, which delivered more than 17,800 seats in and out of the region during that time.

"Based on our average passenger growth, there is a clear need for the terminal redevelopment to move ahead and there is strong support from the community for this project.

"We have invested a quarter of the \$80 million redevelopment to date, and completed airside and early terminal works this month."

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