



# Media Release

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**Tuesday 17 December 2019**

## **Longstanding NT Airport's CEO to retire in March 2020**

The longstanding Chief Executive Officer of NT Airports, Ian Kew, today announced his retirement, which will be effective in March 2020. This follows his service of 19 years in the role.

"Ian's retirement will mark the end of a remarkable era," said the Chair of the NT Airports Board, Chris Barlow.

When Ian commenced in early 2001, NT Airports had only just been privatised. Ian and his team transformed the airports from a Federal Government business to one that has truly focussed on what is important for all stakeholders; be they our airline partners, governments at all levels, our staff and the communities that they serve. Today over 60,000 Territorians have an interest in NT Airports through their super funds and with a value in excess of \$1 billion; it is a key economic driver and contributor to the NT economy.

"Ian has led NT Airports through periods of significant growth and transformation including a major Terminal Expansion Program at Darwin in 2014 that doubled its capacity to cater for future growth. He has been pivotal in forging valuable partnerships between NT Airports and its communities."

"Indeed, last month Ian was presented with the Australian Airports Association's Outstanding Contribution Award, recognising his significant work in supporting the growth of aviation and tourism in the Northern Territory. Ian was also the steward of Darwin Airport's solar farm project, which significantly reduced the airport's carbon footprint and won an international environment award."

"Ian is a great champion of the Territory. His involvement with Darwin Festival and his role as Chair of the Darwin Major Business Group have also been important contributors to growing economic activity in this region."

“Additionally, Ian is highly regarded for his strong focus on community; a continuing priority for NT Airports. Support for local charities, arts, environment, indigenous and other cultural groups has helped NT Airports stay engaged and connected to the people living in the Northern Territory.”

“We thank Ian for his outstanding leadership and sustained contribution to the business and the Territory and we wish him a very happy and fulfilling retirement,” said Chris Barlow.

The NT Airports Board also announced today that, after an extensive international search, Tony Edmondstone has been appointed to the role of Chief Executive Officer of NT Airports, to commence upon Mr Kew’s retirement in March.

Mr Edmondstone has more than 30 years of executive leadership experience across multiple industries and transformation roles, both within Australia and internationally. These included multi-billion dollar regional and functional leadership roles at Orica and Alcoa. Tony joins us from the NT Power and Water Corporation where he served a dual role of leading the Gas Services business as well the Corporation’s finance and business services function.

“Tony has commented on the significant growth potential of the Northern Territory. His experience in management of complex major infrastructure, combined with his familiarity with the Territory, will be great assets for ADG in its next era of growth. We look forward to welcoming Tony to the team,” said Chris Barlow.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Jill Morris** | Communications and Media Manager | NT Airports Pty Ltd

located at Darwin International Airport

T: +618 8920 1814 | M: +61 402 088 141 | E: [jill.morris@ntairports.com.au](mailto:jill.morris@ntairports.com.au)