

Australian airports welcome Virgin-Qatar deal approval

The Australian Airports Association (AAA) welcomes the Treasurer's approval of the Virgin Australia-Qatar Airways deal today.

The alliance will introduce further capacity and greater choice for Australian travellers and international inbound tourists, along with valuable air freight opportunities.

AAA CEO Simon Westaway said:

"This deal is a major win for the aviation industry and the Australian flying public as it improves competition and connectivity.

"We're pleased to see this move that will drive down airfares and create jobs growth.

"There are also added benefits for regional Australia, as the alliance will provide improved inbound tourism connections and sales and marketing visibility to regional tourism destinations.

"The Treasurer's approval includes necessary safeguards, including a three-year deadline to begin dry lease consultations in Australia.

"The AAA continues to advocate for more competition in the Australian airline market and we believe this alliance is a positive way to do that."

Ends.

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