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STRONG REGIONAL AUSTRALIA AVIATION POLICY

Aviation peak bodies have joined together through the Australian Aviation Associations Forum to release new policies aimed at fostering and promoting aviation in Australia and strengthening regional and rural communities.

Chairman of the Forum, Mr. Chris Manning, said that this is a new level of cooperation amongst aviation peak bodies that have identified a range of practical policy initiatives for government and industry.

“Aviation plays a critical role in providing rural and regional Australians with access to services that metropolitan Australians are fortunate enough to be able to take for granted”, Mr. Manning said.

“In addition to easing access for education and business, aviation’s fundamental role of supporting healthcare for rural and regional Australians needs to be recognized and supported by all governments.

“The policies call for ongoing access for regional services to capital city airports, improvement of support for remote area airports and reintroduction of the En Route Subsidy scheme.

“It has been decades since a single government agency has taken on the role of fostering and promoting aviation in Australia and governance and regulatory arrangements remain at the heart of restraints on aviation jobs and growth,”

“At a time when regional aviation in particular is suffering from pilot and engineer shortages, there is a vacuum of policy aimed at addressing the medium and long term potential of the industry to make an even larger contribution to the economy and to sustaining satisfying careers.

“The Forum policies provide a comprehensive framework covering regional access and equity, industry regulation, education and training, manufacturing, technology and taxation that will significantly boost the productivity of the sector.

“Forum participants recommend the policies to all political parties and look forward to working with government to make aviation an even more vibrant part of the Australian economy and community,” Mr. Manning said.

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Media Contact:

See following list of peak aviation association contacts

The Australian Aviation Associations Forum is a cooperative group made up of Australia's aviation peak bodies. The Forum's aims are to simply provide a means for these leading bodies to discuss aviation policy and to provide a coherent industry interface for government on aviation matters. Participants in the Forum represent thousands of grass roots aviation people who have dedicated their lives to making aviation a better and safer industry.

AUSTRALIAN AVIATION ASSOCIATIONS FORUM CONTACTS

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