

Media release

Passenger throughput record smashed

Friday, 18 November 2016

The monthly passenger throughput record at Newcastle Airport was smashed last month when 113,970 passengers passed through the Airport.

This figure is 2% higher than the previous monthly passenger record of 111,757 passengers which set in six years ago in October 2010. This month's figure is also 7% higher when compared with October last year.

The growth in passenger volumes can be attributed to the airlines increasing capacity into the market due to major events around the country, school holidays, and increased business-travel demand.

"October is typically a bumper month for us," said Newcastle Airport's CEO, Dr Peter Cock.

"Traditionally it's a solid month for business travel, but it also coincides with the end of the school holidays, the October long weekend, and this year, the start of the Melbourne Spring Racing Festival.

"The fact that the airlines saw the potential for increased demand in our region, provided us the extra seats, and our community responded resoundingly by choosing to fly from Newcastle proves our popularity as a true alternative to Sydney Airport.

"Our region will reap the rewards for this huge month into the future as the airlines sit up and start to pay attention that our region loves to fly and we mean business," said Peter.

Newcastle Airport also passed, for the third time ever on a rolling 12-month period, a passenger throughput of more than 1.2 million.

"For us, passing the 1.2 million passenger-mark in a rolling 12-month period has proven to be elusive. We've only done it twice before: in 2011 and 2014. This is a major milestone that the people of the Hunter region really should be proud of. This milestone has been reached because of you.

"I encourage our locals to continue their rekindled love of air travel and book your Christmas and New Year getaways now. This summer there are almost half a million seats on sale to and from Newcastle Airport, with the airlines providing extra services to meeting the expected increased demand.

"We're working with our partners to ensure that when you choose to fly from Newcastle Airport, your experience is one that is easy and enjoyable. We have entertainment planned in the coming months from live music on a Friday, Carols at Christmas, to children's entertainment during the school holidays," concluded Peter.

Newcastle Airport is serviced by Jetstar, Virgin Australia, QantasLink, Regional Express, and FlyPelican who connect the region to 10 destinations along the eastern seaboard, and seamless hub access to passengers flying internationally through Brisbane and Melbourne.

Ends.

Further information

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