

Media release

Passenger numbers reach new heights in 2013

2014

The final passenger numbers for 2013 have been compiled and have broken all previous records.

A total of 1,198,312 passengers passed through Newcastle Airport in the 2013 calendar year; an increase of 1.4% or 16,683 passengers compared with 2012.

Increased services from Jetstar to the Gold Coast, combined with additional services from Virgin Australia on the Brisbane route had a positive impact on passenger throughput for the year.

“I’m really happy with this result,” said Newcastle Airport’s CEO Paul Hughes. “It’s pleasing to see growth again; 2011 and 2012 both were relatively flat years. It’s nice to have a turnaround and be in growth again.

“That said, it’s unfortunate that events completely out of our control, such as closure of the Airport due to bushfires in October and the recent collapse of Brindabella, have occurred,” commented Paul, “if these hadn’t happened, we would have easily surpassed 1.2 million passengers in 2013.

“However, that’s the nature of the aviation industry; and you have to take the good with the bad. We had a very consistent year with strong passenger throughput each month, which has allowed us to absorb and minimise external impacts on our annual passenger numbers,” noted Paul.

The July to October period was the strongest four month period ever for Newcastle Airport—a record 413,888 passengers used the Airport. This period was supported by school holidays and strong business traffic during October.

“The final result for 2013 of 1.198 million passengers is a significant achievement and proof of the importance of the Airport as a transport hub for our region,” concluded Paul.

Additional information: The last five year’s passenger numbers:

2009 – 1,135,596

2010 – 1,181,261

2011 – 1,189,851

2012 – 1,181,629

2013 – 1,198,312

Ends.

Further information

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