

ASX code SXR
AIM code SKYW

14 October 2011

SKYWEST AIRLINES LTD

("Skywest")

ATR 72-500 ADDED TO SKYWEST'S AIR OPERATORS CERTIFICATE

Skywest Airlines Ltd, the Australian and South East Asian regional airline is pleased to announce that following a successful proving flight, the Australian Civil Aviation Safety Authority has approved a variation which allows the addition of the ATR 72-500 aircraft to its Air Operators Certificate (AOC). The ATR 72-500 is the newest addition to the Skywest fleet which currently operates Fokker 50, Fokker 100 and Airbus A320 type aircraft.

The AOC provides approval for the ATR 72-500 to operate commencing with the following ports: Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Port Macquarie and Gladstone.

The ATR 72-500 will enter service on Monday 17th October, with the inaugural flight departing from Brisbane to Gladstone. This will be the first commercial flight operated as a part of the Australian Regional Airline Network - a 10 year strategic alliance between Virgin Australia and Skywest Airlines.

Skywest Airlines Chairman Jeff Chatfield commented:

"The addition of the ATR 72-500 onto our AOC has been a huge achievement for Skywest and provides a platform for both Skywest and Virgin Australia Airlines to create an Australia wide regional network."

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Enquiries:

Skywest Airlines Ltd

Jeff Chatfield, Executive Chairman

+65 62522077

Nominated Adviser

James Joyce, WH Ireland Limited

0207 220 1666

Company Stockbroker

WH Ireland Limited

0207 220 1690

Financial Public Relations

Bishopsgate Communications

0207 562 3350

Laura Stevens/Giang Nguyen

skywest@bishopsgatecommunications.com

Media Enquiries in Australia

Nicole Harrison

+61 414 626 723

Websites

www.skywest.com.au

www.advent.com.sg

www.skywest.com.sg