

Embargoed until 6am, Friday 27 March 2009

**Major Infrastructure Project Announcement
New 3 x 737 Aircraft Apron Construction
\$14m Project Creates 80 jobs**

What: Announcement of additional aircraft parking project apron at Canberra Airport

When: 3pm sharp, 27 March 2009

Followed by arrival of first Tiger Airways flight from Adelaide at 3:30pm

Where: Canberra Airport multi-user terminal (ground floor, Virgin/Tiger Airways departures).
Please note that media will be required to go through terminal security screening checkpoint to access this area – please allow 15mins for this process.

Who: Stephen Byron, Canberra Airport

Media are welcome

Canberra Airport announced today (Friday 27 March 2009) that construction works on a new aircraft parking apron will commence next week, creating 80 full-time jobs over a 9-month construction program.

New and increased services by Tiger Airways to Melbourne and Adelaide, as well as new Virgin Blue services to Sydney, Hobart and Townsville mean that the current airline parking apron will be busier than ever in 2009, creating a need for additional aircraft parking. The new apron will ensure all new airline services are accommodated.

“We need to be ready,” says Airport Managing Director, Stephen Byron. “Building infrastructure today means that we are ready to meet the demands of tomorrow. Long delivery lead times mean that construction needs to happen now to avoid constraints to growth in airline services.”

“The \$14 million infrastructure investment, funded solely by Canberra Airport, will be built by locally-owned company Hewatt Earthworks”, Mr Byron said. “The project will employ 80 full-time workers during the 9-month construction phase and the completed apron will further stimulate economic growth through increased jobs in tourism and business across the region.”

Upon completion in December 2009, the expanded apron will accommodate a further three Boeing 737 / Airbus A320 size aircraft.

This will ensure that Canberra Airport can continue to accommodate future new airline services that will bring further choice, more competition, and cheaper airfares to the travelling public.

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