

Tuesday 2 September 2008

DARWIN AIRPORT WELCOMES JETSTAR'S NEW SYDNEY AND HO CHI MINH SERVICES

- **Five times weekly Sydney-Darwin-Ho Chi Minh services commence today**
- **Airport and Jetstar working cooperatively in establishing Darwin hub**
- **Shared concerns on security costs at Darwin Airport**

Darwin Airport CEO Ian Kew today welcomed Jetstar's inaugural Sydney-Darwin-Ho Chi Minh services, which will operate five times weekly. These additional services will compliment Jetstar's existing services to Singapore, and are the next step towards establishing a hub in Darwin. Today also markets the increase of Darwin-Adelaide services from 5 per week to daily, with these services now connecting to Singapore and Vietnam.

Passengers from Cairns, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide are now able to transfer from domestic services to Singapore and Ho Chi Minh in both directions, providing convenient connections to these markets.

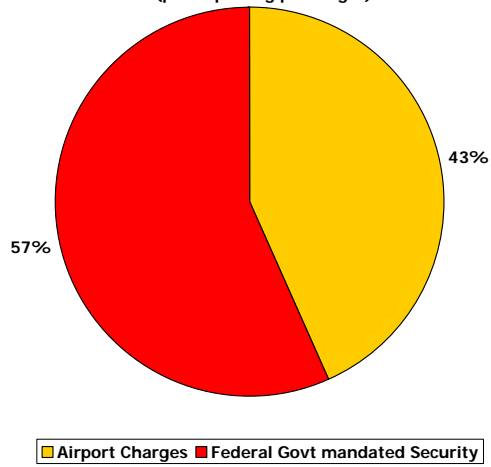
The Airport continues to work closely and cooperatively with Jetstar and all its airline partners in determining their future requirements at Darwin. Mr Kew said, "While airlines such as Jetstar have added services, we share their concerns that security costs at regional gateways may be an impediment to growth moving forward. At Darwin Airport, Federal Government mandated security measures account for 57% of total airport costs for international departing passengers, and 42% for a domestic passenger. In comparison, security costs as a percentage of total airport charges at Australia's major gateways ranges from 12% to 30% for international and domestic passengers."

Mr Kew added, "The main factor impacting on our competitiveness is that we are a small regional airport that is required to have major city airport security – that creates a disproportionate impost. Our costs are also affected by the fact that we operate 24 hours a day which provides airlines the flexibility to arrive at times when there are curfews at some other airports. The Territory is particularly dependent on air links for tourism, business and air freight, and that is why we are lobbying the Federal Government to reduce the impost on our operations that is proving a serious disincentive for low-cost airlines to operate through Darwin and Alice Springs airport".

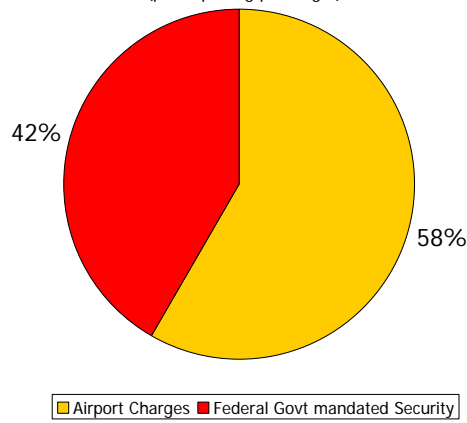
Northern Territory Airports, the operators of Darwin and Alice Springs Airports will continue to work closely with the Northern Territory Government and its airline partners to lobby the Federal Government for a level playing field when it comes to providing security at regional airports.

Ian Kew
Chief Executive, Northern Territory Airports
T: 08 8920 1808

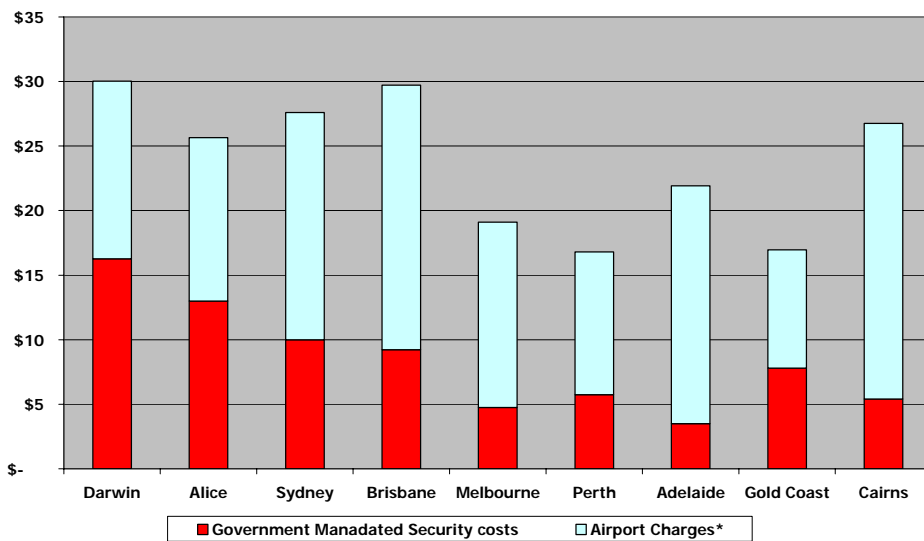
Breakdown of International Passenger Charges at Darwin Airport
(per departing passenger)



Breakdown of Domestic Passenger Charges at Darwin Airport
(per departing passenger)



Charges Breakdown per International Departing passenger#



Some charges adjusted to comparative reasons. E.g. Some airport charge security for arrivals and departures.
* Combined airport charges include runway and terminal charges as levied by each airport.