

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Archerfield welcomes first Eclipse VLJ to Australia**

Archerfield Airport in Brisbane is the new home of the first Eclipse 500 very light jet (VLJ) to arrive in Australia.

Featuring the most advanced technology available, the aircraft is owned by leading waste management specialists, Wanless Environmental Services. It recently landed at Archerfield Airport and is housed at the airport's new purpose-built corporate hangars.

The Eclipse 500 was built by Eclipse Aviation in the USA and is the industry's first very light jet. The Wanless aircraft is the first Eclipse 500 to be sold in the Southern Hemisphere and its recent flight to Australia (35,000kms - 18 countries - 45 hours) was the longest flight of any Eclipse 500 aircraft.

Wanless Environmental Services is located at Coopers Plains near Archerfield Airport. The company will use the corporate jet to transport executives to its various offices throughout Australia and the South Pacific. It expects the jet to deliver significant time efficiencies, allowing travelling executives to achieve in a day what might require a week with commercial airline travel.

#### **Profile – Eclipse 500**

- Construction: conventional aluminium, with all critical joints mechanically fastened
- Engines: twin turbofan jet engines provide maximum altitude of 41,000 feet, avoiding most severe weather systems
- Maximum cruise speed: 371 knots
- Rate of climb: 3,424 feet per minute
- Take off run: 700m
- Passenger capacity: 1 pilot & 5 others

In 2007, the Eclipse 500 set a National Aeronautic Association (NAA) performance record, distinguishing itself as the industry's fastest jet aircraft weighing 10,000 pounds or less. The jet set a new US national speed record in the NAA record category of Class C (Aeroplanes, Very Light Jets) when it flew from New York to Atlanta in 1 hour, 55 minutes, 8 seconds.

Eclipse jet arrival 2.

CEO of Archerfield Airport Corporation (AAC), Gerard Campbell, said Archerfield Airport was in a perfect situation to take advantage of the growth of the corporate aircraft market in Australia, especially with increasing numbers of large companies establishing their offices in Brisbane.

He said corporate aircraft owners who based their aircraft at secondary airports like Archerfield enjoyed a number of benefits. These included convenient location, ease of access and greater efficiencies because they didn't have to fit in with the high levels of traffic and large aircraft that operate out of major domestic and international airports.

*Released July 7, 2008*

**TO ARRANGE A MEDIA INTERVIEW OR IMAGES, CONTACT:**

Michael Cooke, Pilot and Aviation Manager for Wanless Group  
(NB. Michael flew the aircraft from USA to Australia for owner Ron Wanless): 0429 841 130

or Kerry Reeves for AAC: 0407 036 791