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MEDIA RELEASE

Archerfield Airport appointment

Archerfield Airport Corporation (AAC) has appointed Capt. Desmond Ross as the new General Manager of Archerfield Airport.

Capt. Ross is a professional aviator with 40 years' international experience in the aviation and defence industries. His expertise extends to airport management, aviation safety and security, air traffic control and helicopter rescue.

Capt. Ross will oversee the continuing development of Archerfield Airport into a centre of excellence for aeronautical and related industries. As Brisbane's metropolitan airport, Archerfield has been rejuvenated in recent years to support the changing face of the aviation sector in Australia.

Capt. Ross has just returned to Australia after many years overseas. His most recent position was in Papua New Guinea as CEO of Heli Niugini Limited. Prior to that he was the first General Manager of the Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO) where he established a Regional Safety Oversight Organisation working with 13 Pacific Island countries. His previous appointment was also in Vanuatu as CEO of Airports Vanuatu Ltd, where he led the corporatisation of the national airports, including a major upgrade of airport infrastructure and the provision of aviation services.

Capt. Ross previously lived and worked throughout South East Asia for more than 12 years, initially with MBB/Deutsche Aerospace and then with AWA Defence Industries on air operations and airport projects.

As well as being an experienced fixed and rotary wing pilot, Capt. Ross spent 10 years in air traffic services during the seventies. He is one of only 200 graduates worldwide of an aviation security management certification program (conducted by ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation) and the Concordia University of Montreal. He was awarded a Royal Humane Society Bronze Medal for helicopter rescue work, and a mountain on Heard Island in the Great Southern Ocean was named for him in recognition of his role in a 1980 expedition to previously unexplored territory.

Managing Director of AAC, Gavin Bird, said the Corporation was very pleased to benefit from Capt. Ross' extensive experience. He said Capt. Ross would continue the solid foundations laid by previous airport CEOs to unearth the broader potential of Archerfield Airport.

Capt. Ross said he was looking forward to meeting other Archerfield Airport stakeholders and working with them to ensure the future of the airport.

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