

MEDIA RELEASE

Airnorth wins 2012 Large Services Award

Airnorth is proud to announce it has been awarded the **2012 Large Services Award** at the Northern Territory's Chief Minister's Export and Industry Awards last night.

As the winner of the 2011 Exporter of the Year and the Large Services Award, Airnorth's Chief Executive Officer, Mr Michael Bridge is pleased to have the airline's contribution to the NT economy over the past 34 years recognised again at such a prestigious level.

"We have developed our business model over many years. With our mix of RPT scheduled services, contracted and ad hoc charter services, we've secured a broad customer and revenue base, from which the business has grown," said Mr Bridge.

"Added to this is our long term contracts with national and international corporations and our alliance with Qantas that provides worldwide distribution of Airnorth services, code share, frequent flyer and seamless connectivity with the Qantas network," he said.

Airnorth's selection of brand new fuel efficient Embraer jet aircraft was another strategic decision designed to keep costs and emissions to a minimum. Airnorth is currently operating three Embraer jets throughout the network with a fourth due to come online in early 2013.

"We are totally focused on delivering the highest standard of services to our customers, in particular from Timor-Leste, where we have been operating since 1999. It is the continuing support of our valued clients that has been instrumental in our success, culminating with us winning this prestigious award for the second time," said Mr Bridge.

"We also contribute this success to the high calibre of staff we have here at Airnorth. It is their hard work and commitment that's helped to get the company where it is today," he said.

The Chief Minister's Awards recognise the important contribution that NT businesses make to the local economy through job creation and increased prosperity in the community. As an NT winner, Airnorth will now be entered into the Prime Minister's Exporter of the Year Awards in Canberra in November.

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Company background

Headquartered in Darwin, Airnorth is now the premier airline based in Northern Australia and carries in excess of 250,000 passengers annually.

Airnorth is a full service carrier accommodating the needs of both business and leisure travellers, operating state-of-art regional jets through its interstate and international network and providing passengers with complimentary catering and a free baggage allowance.

The airline operates over 185 departures weekly, serving 16 destinations in the Northern Territory, Western Australia, Queensland and Timor-Leste including:

Darwin	Dili, Timor-Leste	Broome	Elcho Island
Gold Coast	Groote Eylandt	Gove [Nhulunbuy]	Karratha
Kununurra	Maningrida	McArthur River	Milingimbi
Mt Isa	Perth	Port Hedland	Townsville

Passengers can also earn and redeem Qantas Frequent Flyer points on all Airnorth scheduled services.

Airnorth, through its partnership with Qantas Airways, offer seamless connectivity including through check in and interline baggage facilities, with Qantas code sharing on the majority of Airnorth's Jet services.

In addition to scheduled departures, Airnorth operates contract and ad-hoc charter services for a wide variety of companies undertaking oil & gas, mining, defence and government activity.

Airnorth directly employs more than 200 staff in Darwin and provides indirect employment through the contracting of ground service operations across its destinations.

