

MEDIA ADVISORY



The Regional Aviation Association of Australia (RAAA) acknowledges the Federal Government announcement today of a further \$50 million in funding to acquire the debt of Rex's largest creditor PAGAC Regulus Holdings Limited (PAG) and particularly the vital role regional aviation services play in supporting regional and remote communities throughout the country.

The RAAA also understands that by acquiring the debt the Government will become the principal secured creditor and will be seeking to be a voting member of the Committee of Inspection.

"Providing services to regional and remote communities continues to be challenging for everyone, particularly on the smaller capacity routes. Ongoing assistance from State and Federal Governments to regional airline operators is essential to ensure that these regional routes can continue to survive". RAAA CEO Rob Walker said.

"RAAA members once again extend their offers of support and are also ready and willing to assist where they can. The RAAA also extends its offer of support to the Minister's Aviation Response Taskforce set up to specifically deal with the Rex administration".

"Our regional airline members operate aircraft of similar types and passenger capacity to those operated by Rex, and we are confident in our combined capability to expand our services to conduct those additional routes if requested". Rob Walker also said.

"In the absence of any expressed interest to acquire the Rex regional services as a whole, we believe that we can collectively provide real industry-led solutions for the Government as it seeks to secure the future viability and sustainability of aviation support of regional and remote communities".

The RAAA represents most Australian regional airlines and member airlines compete daily on regional routes providing world class regional aviation services.

Ends

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The RAAA represents aviation across Australia. It has over 125 members and its Air Operator Certificate (AOC) holding members directly employ over 2,500 Australians, many in regional areas. On an annual basis, the RAAA's AOC members jointly turn over more than \$1.5 billion, carry well more than two million passengers and move over 23 million kilograms of freight. Our Regional Airport members also provide and manage critical infrastructure across Australian.

Serving regional aviation, and through it, the people and businesses of regional Australia

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