



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
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West Wing Aviation expands into Torres Strait

West Wing Aviation will begin regular passenger air services in the Torres Strait next week, servicing residents of 11 remote communities.

The regular flights will begin from next **Tuesday April 14**.

West Wing Aviation is a North Queensland-owned airline that currently operates from Cairns, Mount Isa and Townsville.

Managing Director Peter Collings said that the airline was excited to begin servicing the Torres Strait community after months of planning and negotiations.

"We are thrilled to announce that next week we will begin regular passenger services for 11 remote communities in the Torres Strait," Mr Collings said.

"There is a huge need for a reliable and safe airline operating in the region and we are very pleased to be able to fill that void.

"Our expansion into the Torres Strait represents a strategic investment of nearly \$5 million for the company.

"We really need the strong support of local residents to make it successful and to ensure we can continue to service the region in the long-term."

Torres Strait Islands Regional Council CEO John Scarce says the Council is looking forward to the commencement of West Wing flights.

"We have greatly anticipated the arrival of West Wing to the area and welcome the news that services will begin shortly," Mr Scarce said.

"The outer islands of the Torres Strait have been without a regular service airline since October 2008 and this has greatly hindered the ability of residents to travel between islands or to the mainland."

Bookings can be made by phone Business and Leisure Travel on 1300-768-696 or via the website www.westwing.com.au.

West Wing Aviation is offering introductory fares from \$175pp one way, see the website for further details.

For general inquiries, phone 07-4035-9082.

About West Wing Aviation

West Wing Aviation is a privately owned airline, established in 2000.

The airline is committed to providing the highest level of safety and has a sharp focus on efficient service.

Managing Director Peter Collings' career in the aviation industry spans over 20 years. He has owned airline operations servicing regional Queensland since 1992.

West Wing Aviation has experienced exciting growth over the past nine years and has a team of over 70 staff, including 50 pilots.

West Wing Aviation has a range of aircraft including the two new Beechcraft 1900D 19-seaters.

Cessna Grand Caravans and Britten-Norman Islanders will be used to service the Torres Strait routes.

West Wing Aviation has developed a Safety Management Plan that ensures operations and maintenance programs comply with the strictest safety standards.

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