

17 JANUARY 2008

**SKYWEST AIRLINES LTD
(Formerly known as Advent Air Ltd, "Skywest" or the "Company")**

SKYWEST AND VIRGIN BLUE ANNOUNCE CODE-SHARE

CONTRACT OPENS UP EAST COAST TO INCREASED SALES EXPOSURE

The Board of Skywest Airlines Ltd, the Australian and South East Asia regional airline operator, is pleased to announce a contract with Virgin Blue involving code-share of selected premier routes throughout their networks.

This contract will allow Skywest sales distribution in the East coast of Australia and offer an increased number of destinations to passengers. This further underlines Skywest's intention to broaden its appeal to its customers, as part of its strategy for continued growth throughout 2008.

SALIENT POINTS OF THE SKYWEST AND VIRGIN BLUE CODE-SHARE CONTRACT:

- Media Headline: TWO GREAT AIRLINES – ONE GREAT PARTNERSHIP – EAST MEETS WEST
- Offers Skywest access to Virgin Blue's ticket sales network, thus increasing Skywest's sales exposure and scale
- Offers passengers connectivity between the East and West coasts of Australia
- Increases destinations available for sale to the travelling public
- Offers full interline capacity for passengers baggage
- Commencement date 4th February 2008
- Participation in the passenger rewards loyalty program "Velocity"

Skywest Executive Chairman, Jeff Chatfield said: **"The relationship with Virgin Blue is part of our strategy to give our travellers more choice. The arrangement between Skywest and Virgin Blue allows seamless travel to a large number of destinations. The arrangement gives Skywest's customers and selected scheduled charter clients access to the Velocity loyalty program, something which was desirable as indicated from feedback. We expect that regular passenger numbers will increase as a result of the arrangements because of Virgin Blue's online and offline large scale ticket sales networks."**

The directors advise that the following is the text of the release to the media from Virgin Blue and Skywest:

EAST MEETS WEST - VIRGIN BLUE & SKYWEST ANNOUNCE CODE-SHARE DEAL

Friday 19 January 2008: Brisbane, Two award winning airlines, New World Carrier, Virgin Blue and WA based Skywest have announced a new code-share partnership set for take-off from 4 February 2008.

The two airlines will work together with the key benefits being an increased number of destinations and services for Virgin Blue Guests which will now also include Port Hedland, Kalgoorlie/Boulder, Kununurra and additional flights from Perth to Broome, offering a more convenient and streamlined travel experience.

The new code-share agreement will allow travellers to purchase Virgin Blue fares from Sydney and Melbourne to Perth, and connect seamlessly onto selected SKYWEST flights (or vice versa). Guests

don't need to worry about picking up their luggage until they get to their final destination. All tickets purchased on codeshare flights are eligible to earn Virgin Blue Velocity Points.

Virgin Blue Chief Executive, Brett Godfrey, said, "Skywest and Virgin Blue already work together via Skywest's participation in Virgin Blue's loyalty program "Velocity", and the code-share agreement is a strengthening of co-operation between our two airlines."

He continued, "Increasing our codeshare partnerships is part of Virgin Blue's New World Carrier strategy to give especially corporate travellers more benefits and more options through an enhanced network to our Guests.

This new arrangement also increases our footprint in regional WA while at the same time strengthening ties with a quality WA based airline."

Skywest Chief Executive Officer Paul Daff, said the codeshare agreement opened up seamless travel between Sydney/Melbourne and some of WA's premier destinations.

"Skywest is pleased to partner with Virgin Blue to further grow the Eastern states market and to build exposure of Skywest's WA destinations" Mr Daff said.

Bookings for Skywest connecting flights can be made as of Monday the 21st January via the Virgin Blue's website www.virginblue.com.au with the codeshare seating available from February 2008.

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About Virgin Blue:
www.virginblue.com.au



Multi award winning airline Virgin Blue and international carriers Pacific Blue and Polynesian Blue currently operate a fleet of 61 modern Boeing 737 and Embraer E-Jet aircraft flying to 23 Australian and eight international destinations including New Zealand, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu and the Cook Islands. Virgin Blue was the first airline in the world to launch a Government-certified carbon offset program, where Guests can offset the carbon emissions from their flights. Virgin Blue Group has also announced plans to launch Australia's newest international airline, V Australia, set to commence flights between Australia and the USA from late 2008, subject to regulatory approvals

About Skywest:



The award winning Skywest Airlines has been meeting the transport needs of millions of Western Australians, domestic and international tourists for more than 44 years. Each year, Skywest flies more than 350,000 people across Western Australia, Darwin, Melbourne and to Bali, providing an essential link for regional communities, tourists and businesses. The airline operates a fleet of Fokker 50 turbo-prop and Fokker 100 jet aircraft.

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