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5 June 2012

Company Announcements Platform  
Australian Securities Exchange

**By fax: 1300 135 638**

**Total number of pages: 3**

Dear Sir/Madam

**VIRGIN AUSTRALIA HOLDINGS LIMITED - ETIHAD AIRWAYS PJSC  
MEDIA RELEASE**

We act for Etihad Airways PJSC (**Etihad Airways**).

We attach a press release that will be issued this morning by Etihad Airways in respect of Virgin Australia Holdings Limited.

Our client has instructed us to provide you with a copy of the press release as a matter of courtesy.

Please note that Etihad Airways will lodge a substantial shareholder notice in respect of Virgin Australia Holdings Limited at the appropriate time (in accordance with its obligations under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lyndon Masters'.

**Lyndon Masters**  
Senior Associate  
Direct +61 7 3246 4007  
lyndon.masters@dlapiper.com  
Encl

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Please notify us if this communication has been sent to you by mistake. If it has been, any client legal privilege is not waived or lost and you are not entitled to use it in any way.

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## Press Release



June 5, 2012

### **ETIHAD AIRWAYS CONFIRMS 3.96 PER CENT STAKE IN VIRGIN AUSTRALIA**

Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, today confirmed that it has acquired a 3.96 per cent stake in Virgin Australia Holdings.

The stake has been built over recent weeks, through purchases on the open market.

Etihad Airways believes that this equity investment in Virgin Australia's domestic operations significantly strengthens the 10-year strategic partnership forged by the two carriers in August 2010 and will enrich the commercial benefits which the alliance already provides for both airlines, as well as increasing the benefits to Australian consumers and visitors to Australia.

Together, Etihad Airways (21) and V Australia (3) operate 24 flights a week between Abu Dhabi and Australia and passengers have access to a combined network of more than 150 destinations. Last month Etihad Airways leased a Virgin Australia Boeing 777-300ER for use on its route between Abu Dhabi and Kuala Lumpur.

Etihad Airways began flying to Australia in March, 2007 when it launched services to Sydney. Melbourne and Brisbane were quickly added. Nearly 2.2 million passengers have been carried between Abu Dhabi and these three cities in the last five years.

Etihad Airways has strategic codeshare partnerships with 35 airlines around the world.

## Press Release



### About Etihad Airways

Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, began operations in 2003, and in 2011 carried 8.3 million passengers. From its hub at Abu Dhabi International Airport, Etihad Airways serves 87 passenger and cargo destinations in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia and North America, with a fleet of 66 Airbus and Boeing aircraft, and 100 aircraft on order, including 10 Airbus A380s, the world's largest passenger aircraft. Etihad Airways also owns nearly 30 per cent of airberlin, Europe's sixth largest airline, and 40 per cent of Air Seychelles. For more information, please visit: [www.etihadairways.com](http://www.etihadairways.com).

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