



Media Release

QANTAS TO FLY TO SANTIAGO

BUILDING A STRONGER QANTAS – NEW INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY

SYDNEY, 16 August 2011: Australians will gain unprecedented access to South America through a new Qantas service to Chile's capital, Santiago.

The new service is part of the Qantas Group's five-year plan to build a truly modern, customer-focused and competitive global airline business.

In early 2012, Qantas will commence direct flights between Sydney and Santiago, one of Latin America's main gateways and home port of Qantas' **oneworld** partner LAN Airlines.* This service will operate three times a week, using a three-class Boeing 747 reconfigured with Airbus A380 product, and replace Qantas' current direct flights between Sydney and Buenos Aires. Over time, Qantas will look to increase the frequency of Santiago services to daily.

As the leading premium airline in South America and a **oneworld** member, LAN has an extensive network in South America. The LAN Group includes a number of affiliate passenger airlines in Peru, Ecuador and Argentina, as well as the LAN Cargo business.

Qantas Chief Executive Officer Alan Joyce said flights to Santiago would provide higher connection frequencies across the continent than available through Buenos Aires.

"Direct Qantas flights to Santiago will give Australian businesses and tourists the ideal gateway into the key markets of South America, offering convenient connections to Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia.

"There is considerable potential for Qantas to help develop the fast-growing trade, tourism and cultural ties between the Asia-Pacific and South American markets. Australia's location makes it ideally-placed to act as a hub for passenger and freight traffic from Asia to South America, presenting an alternative to the United States.

"We are particularly pleased to be flying into the home of our **oneworld** partner LAN and look forward to discussing the possibilities for developing a closer relationship."

Flying time from Sydney to Santiago is 13 hours and flying time from Santiago to Sydney is 14 hours 25 minutes.

*Subject to relevant government and regulatory approvals.

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