

## Helloworld Travel Limited to purchase Flight Systems Pty Ltd

**20 MARCH 2018**

Helloworld Travel Limited (HLO) has today strengthened its business by agreeing to purchase Flight Systems Pty Ltd, a provider of web-based flight booking technologies and operator of the skiddoo.com.au website.

The agreement, which is subject to certain pre-conditions, comes two weeks after HLO announced it had concluded the acquisition of Magellan Travel Group and is in line with the company's strategic aim of further developing its leisure and corporate technologies globally.

HLO has agreed to acquire 100% of the business which will be funded from existing cash reserves. The acquisition is expected to be completed by the end of March, 2018. The business is expected to generate TTV of over \$80 million in FY18.

Andrew Burnes, HLO CEO said "the acquisition would also strengthen the businesses technology suite in its corporate and leisure wholesale operations".

"Flight Systems would provide the company with a low risk and low cost entry to some sophisticated distribution technologies to incorporate into the rapidly developing ResWorld agency platform, which is being rolled out during 2018", said Mr. Burnes.

"Flight Systems is an established business with proven technologies and takes us significantly forward in the expansion of our system capabilities across the business" he added.

Mirza Juddani, CEO of Flight Systems, said "the underlying technologies of Flight Systems will significantly enhance the distribution of travel products through Helloworld Travel's multiple retail and corporate distribution channels in the Asia Pacific region".

In addition to delivering an established revenue stream, the new technologies will deliver significant benefits to Helloworld Travel members by:

- Providing an online tool which allows agents to provide their customers with 24/7 bookability via their own branded portals;
- Providing greater flexibility to HLO customers who can book the relatively simple travel services they want online while still having access to the wide range of services that HLO agents offer;
- Providing greater choice for customers, making it easier to book and interact with the HLO network; and
- Delivering greater efficiencies for all the HLO networks.

## **Merger & Acquisition Strategy**

HLO has completed a number of acquisitions since mid-FY17 in its three operating divisions of leisure travel, corporate travel and travel wholesaling. A summary of these acquisitions include:

- Cruise data manager 'The Cruise Factory' which provides up-to-date cruise data to distributors in Australia and around the world;
- Cruise wholesaler and package business 'Seven Oceans Cruising', which packages global cruise products with pre and post touring options, flights and other services;
- Home-based travel agency network 'MTA', Australia's largest home based travel agency network; and
- Magellan Travel Group, Australia's premium agency network with 129 agencies located around Australia.

Helloworld Travel Limited will continue to evaluate M&A opportunities as they arise and will, where appropriate, look to acquire complementary business in Australia, New Zealand and around the world.

-ENDS-

## **About Helloworld Travel Limited**

- Helloworld Travel Limited (ASX: HLO) is a leading Australian & New Zealand travel distribution company, comprising retail travel franchise operations, destination management services (inbound), air ticket consolidation, wholesale, corporate and online operations. This includes "*Helloworld Travel*", Australia's largest network of franchised travel agents, as well as our Corporate, Associate, Affiliate and Travel Broker networks, Qantas Holidays, Go Holidays in New Zealand, AOT Inbound, ATS Pacific, ETA, QBT, Sunlover Holidays and Insider Journeys.
- "*Helloworld Travel*" is a nationwide network of independently owned and operated retail travel agencies offering Australia and New Zealand outstanding service, and the best value, tailor-made leisure and corporate travel experiences.
- HLO has over 2000 staff located in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, the USA, South East Asia, India and UK/Europe.
- Helloworld Travel is the proud naming rights partner of Volleyball Australia and the *Helloworld Travel Volleyroos* men's and women's national teams.

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