



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### REGION SET TO REAP REWARDS OF SINGAPORE DIRECT SERVICE

Gold Coast Airport and the region's wider tourism industry yesterday celebrated the announcement that Scoot Airlines will commence a direct Singapore – Gold Coast service on June 12 this year.

The service, scheduled to operate five times per week, will put the Gold Coast and Northern Rivers regions on a new level as a desired travel destination internationally.

Gold Coast Airport Chief Operating Officer Paul Donovan said the new service will provide access to and from the region from just about anywhere in the world.

“The commencement of this service allows us to market the Gold Coast and Northern Rivers region as a direct short-haul destination to some of the most important tourism growth markets in the world.

“The fact that Scoot Airlines has chosen Gold Coast Airport as their second Australian base is a reflection of our region's ever increasing popularity as a holiday destination.

“From an outbound perspective, residents within our catchment area – from Brisbane to Coffs Harbour – will be able to access low cost services directly to Singapore and beyond.

“What's more, New Zealand and interstate residents can also have access to the service by hubbing through Gold Coast Airport.

“We look forward to working closely with Scoot and our industry partners in the coming months to fill the capacity on this new service,” Mr Donovan said.

This announcement reinforces the ever increasing appeal of the Gold Coast in the market and demonstrates the potential that organisations like *Scoot Airlines* see in the growth of the destination, providing approximately 166,000 seats per annum.

Gold Coast Airport exceeded 5 million passenger movements for the second consecutive year in 2011, of which over 753,000 were international passengers.

A recent Economic Impact Study commissioned by Gold Coast Airport revealed a total of 1,719 people were employed within the airport precinct, a figure that is set to increase with the introduction of Scoot Airlines in June.

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