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MEDIA RELEASE

CASA DEBUNKS ALL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST REX IN ITS FORMAL AUDIT REPORT

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) yesterday delivered its formal report following an audit conducted on Regional Express (Rex) on the 4th and 5th of July. The audit was in response to a baseless and scurrilous complaint by a disgruntled engineer and his union that Rex had a bad safety culture.

The audit report did not issue a single safety finding and did not even find any minor lapses that would warrant a safety observation, an outcome which is a ringing testament to the excellent Safety Management System and Culture within the Rex Group.

The audit also examined the video provided by an anonymous source to the media that allegedly showed “rust” on a propeller shaft of a Rex aircraft. The report accepted the evidence that the surface discolouration visible in the video was dirt and very minor surface corrosion.

Rex’s Deputy Chairman, John Sharp said, “CASA should be highly commended for devoting considerable resources in ensuring that the audit report was published soon after the audit so that the public can be reassured quickly of the excellent safety standards of Rex.”

“Although the report by CASA has unequivocally vindicated Rex on all the baseless accusations, the damage to Rex’s reputation in the minds of some members of the public is great, and will not be completely repaired as the media will not be so enthusiastic in now reporting the truth as they have been in reporting trumped-up and sensational charges that help sell their publications.”

“The tabloids and other organisations that are behind this should be condemned by all for their irresponsible and unconscionable actions that played on the highly emotive issue of aviation safety to further their personal agenda. Rex will be seeking advice on the appropriate actions to be taken against these irresponsible parties to safeguard the integrity of aviation safety in Australia.”

Regional Express (Rex) is Australia’s largest independent regional airline operating a fleet of more than 50 Saab 340 aircraft on some 1,500 weekly flights to 60 destinations throughout all states in Australia. In addition to the regional airline Regional Express, the **Rex Group** comprises wholly owned subsidiaries **Pel-Air Aviation** (air freight, aeromedical and charter operator) and the **Australian Airline Pilot Academy**.

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