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MEDIA RELEASE

REX EXITS NEWCASTLE TO BALLINA LINK

Regional Express (Rex) has today announced that it is withdrawing its once daily service between Newcastle and Ballina with effect from 25 October 2015. Rex established the Newcastle to Ballina link in October 2011 which was at the same time the airline commenced services between Newcastle and Sydney.

“As recently reported in the Rex results for Financial Year 2015, the current operating conditions in regional Australia remain very challenging and in such a harsh climate Rex cannot afford to carry loss making routes,” said Mr Warrick Lodge, Rex General Manager Network Strategy & Sales.

“Rex remains committed to the Sydney to Newcastle and Sydney to Ballina routes where Rex will continue to provide convenient business-friendly flight schedules.”

Mr Lodge also added that further network cuts could not be ruled out in the interests of ensuring the continued provision of essential regional air services to the bush.

Customers impacted by the changes will be offered a full refund or alternate travel on Rex between Newcastle and Ballina via Sydney for no additional cost.

Regional Express (Rex) is Australia’s largest independent regional airline operating a fleet of more than 40 Saab 340 aircraft on some 1,400 weekly flights to 54 destinations throughout New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Queensland. The Rex Group comprises Regional Express, air freight and charter operator Pel-Air Aviation and Dubbo-based regional airline Air Link, as well as the pilot academy Australian Airline Pilot Academy.

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