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## MEDIA RELEASE

### REX SUBSIDIARY PEL-AIR TO PROCURE TWO PILATUS PC-24 JETS FOR NSW AMBULANCE FIXED WING AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

As announced by the New South Wales Government on 22 June 2021, funds for the new budget year have been allocated for NSW Ambulance (NSWA) to secure an improved mix of aircraft in their Air Ambulance fleet. Rex subsidiary Pel-Air will be adding two new Pilatus PC-24 jets to the NSW Fixed Wing air ambulance services contract.

The operations phase of the contract will commence from 1 January 2022, with the introduction of five new King Air B350 aircraft. The two jets will be introduced into service in the second half of 2023, and will replace two of the five King Air B350 aircraft for the rest of the 10-year operational phase.

The Pilatus PC-24 jets will undergo modifications in both Stans, Switzerland and locally in New South Wales to prepare the aircraft for the critical care and complex mission requirements of NSW in the areas of standard patient transfers, Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Service operations, Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation operations, Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump operations, Bariatric patient operations, over-water aeromedical transfers and major incident responses.

The ability of the PC-24 jet to travel long distances at very high speed and to land at narrow unpaved runways of only 11m width will be critical in a big state like NSW and could make the difference between life and death.

Pel-Air Chairman, the Hon. John Sharp AM, said, "Pel-Air is honoured by the confidence that the NSW has placed on Pel-Air in being able to carry out successfully the procurement and modifications of these state-of-the-art jets and to run its aeromedical retrieval operations for the next 10 years with a mixed fleet for the first time in its history. All five new King Air B350 have been delivered in-country on time despite the challenges of COVID and we are well on track to start operations in six months' time."

Pel-Air is the incumbent operator of a similar contract for Ambulance Victoria.

An image is appended to this media release.

**Rex** is Australia's largest independent regional and domestic airline operating a fleet of 60 Saab 340 and six Boeing 737-800NG aircraft to 61 destinations throughout all states in Australia. In addition to the airline Rex, the Rex Group comprises wholly owned subsidiaries Pel-Air Aviation (air freight, aeromedical and charter operator) and the two pilot academies, Australian Airline Pilot Academy in Wagga Wagga and Ballarat.

**ENDS**

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**IMAGE:** *Rendering of a PC-24 in the New South Wales Ambulance (NSWA) livery*

Members of the Rex Group

