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## MEDIA RELEASE

### REX GROUP GARNERS 4 AWARDS AT THE TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS INDUSTRY SKILLS COUNCIL AWARDS CEREMONY

The Regional Express (Rex) Group was recognised four times by the Transport and Logistics Industry Skills Council (TLISC) at its annual awards ceremony in Melbourne last night.

Rex won the *Innovation and Excellence in Workforce Development Award (Aviation)* for its innovative approach to workforce development. This award recognises Rex for its innovative approach in the development of a unique cadet pilot programme through its wholly owned subsidiary, the Australian Airline Pilot Academy (AAPA), a Registered Training Organisation.

The high calibre of the cadet programme contributed to one of its cadets, Carl Riseley, recipient of the Rex Cadet Programme (batch 11) Chairman's Award, winning the *2014 TLISC Trainee of the Year Award*.

The Rex Group also picked up two *Highly Commended Awards*, one by Rex, in the Chairman's Award category and the other by AAPA instructor, Scott Gregory, in the Trainee of the Year category.

Rex Director Mr Chris Hine said, "We are extremely honoured to be recognised in so many different categories. It is pleasing to see that the substantial investment Rex is making in training airline pilots in Australia through AAPA is being appreciated. Rex is also building up the pool of airline engineers by accepting over 15 apprentices every year. We hope we have set an example for other airline operators to invest in our industry's future for the long term."

"We would like to thank the TLISC for offering the awards for excellence, and for the vital role they play in supporting organisations such as ours with skilled workforce development programmes. To date, 226 pilots, representing 85% of the total number of Rex pilots, have benefited from the Enterprise Based Productivity Places Program (EBPPP) and National Workforce Development Fund (NWDF), and have achieved their first tertiary level diploma with the assistance of the TLISC."

"These awards pay tribute to Rex and AAPA staff, as well as the cadets who have been a part of developing and making our innovative and comprehensive cadet pilot programme so successful. They should rightfully feel very proud," Mr Hine added.

Regional Express (Rex) is Australia's largest independent regional airline operating a fleet of more than 40 Saab 340 aircraft on some 1,300 weekly flights to 36 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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