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MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN TRANSPORT SAFETY BUREAU FINAL REPORT ON THE IN-FLIGHT LOSS OF PROPELLER

Regional Express (Rex) welcomes the release today of the final report from the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) into the in-flight loss of a propeller on a Rex flight to Sydney on 17 March 2017.

Rex Chief Operating Officer, Mr Neville Howell said, "The ATSB final report is very comprehensive and we find it completely factual and balanced. I would like to commend the ATSB's investigation team for its professionalism and meticulous approach."

"We are proud of our crew who managed to land the aircraft normally and safely after the incident and we are pleased to note that the ATSB report has also commended their actions:

"The crew showed a high level of professionalism in their response to the engine failure and loss of a propeller. The crew demonstrated high levels of communication and coordination, and promptly applied checklists and procedures."

"We also take note that there were no safety issues found with Rex's maintenance procedures and systems. The ATSB and the engine manufacturer, General Electric, were unable to determine conclusively the reason for the fatigue crack initiation and propagation. This leads us to believe that the incident is a very rare and random event which will be largely mitigated by the new inspection procedures initiated by General Electrics."

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 and charter operator) and the **Australian Airline Pilot Academy**.

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