



## MEDIA ALERT

15 November 2011

### **TOWNSVILLE AIRPORT WELCOMES DIRECT DARWIN SERVICE**

Townsville Airport Limited (TAPL) is today delighted with news that they will soon welcome a new airline partner to the region with carrier Airnorth announcing a new Darwin-Townsville service.

The services will run twice weekly and will commence 17<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

Townsville Airport's Chief Operating Officer Mr Kevin Gill has welcomed today's news, saying the commencement of services will provide many benefits to both communities.

"This is fantastic news for the Townsville region, with both the tourism industry and business sector set to reap reward.

"This service will provide some exciting new holiday options for Townsville locals, such as Kakadu, Arnhem Land, the Kimberley and Pilbara regions.

"The benefits don't stop there either, with Townsville locals also able to take advantage of international connectivity via Darwin to destinations such as Bali, Singapore and Ho Chi Min City to name just a few," Mr Gill said.

Townsville Enterprise Manager of Economic Development Matt Morris said the new Darwin-Townsville service is great news from both a tourism and economic perspective for both regions and Townsville Enterprise is fully supportive of the new flights with Airnorth.

"Providing this link between Townsville and Darwin and also the connection to international destinations will further assist in encouraging potential visitors to our region," Mr Morris said.

"This service will also benefit the Townsville Convention Bureau in marketing Townsville to Professional Conference Organisers (PCOs) as 'easily accessible' and will help attract events and conferences from the Darwin region to the Townsville region."

Airnorth Darwin – Townsville services will operate twice weekly on Monday's and Friday's. Start up schedule as follows:

<b>Flight number</b>	<b>Departure</b>	<b>Departure time</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	<b>Arrival time</b>
TL182	Darwin	0700	Townsville	1005
TL183	Townsville	1105	Darwin	1320

**Ends**

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