Darwin International Airport (in conjunction with Greening Australia) have been awarded first place in the Commercial/Industry category of the 2008 Power and Water Melaleuca Awards.

Power and Water’s Melaleuca Awards were developed in 2003 to recognise outstanding achievement in environmental excellence in the Northern Territory.

The project submitted for consideration by the airport was the “Darwin International Airport (DIA) and Greening Australia Conservation Reserve”.

A long-standing relationship between DIA and Greening Australia has led to a partnership to implement a Conservation Reserve on airport land. The project implements strategies from a range of planning documents that used scientific and environmental information and extensive community consultation to establish environmental outcomes for the Rapid Creek catchment. The Conservation Reserve covers fifteen hectares and includes an important wildlife corridor joining an area of existing bushland with the Rapid Creek corridor.

For more on this story and photos, see page 7.

From the CEO

Airport Development Group, the holding company for Northern Territory Airports, Darwin International Airport, Alice Springs Airport and Tennant Creek Airport, celebrated its 10th birthday in June. The airports were privatised on 10th June 1998 and since that time we have experienced some major changes in our businesses.

Demonstrating our significant growth, in 1998 the three airports handled approximately 1.8 million passengers, last year we handled 2.4 million passengers. Our team has grown from around 46 staff to almost 70 and we have invested more than $100 million into the airport business, the majority of it on aviation related projects.

We have also developed our non-aviation property portfolio with office facilities for the Department of Environment and Heritage, AQIS and CASA. Our ABC Childcare facility, Darwin Airport Resort and its sister facility the Darwin Airport Inn, Furry Godmother (pet accommodation) and the Bunnings Warehouse have paved the way for further developments.

At present our team is working through the planning process for our two most significant investments and developments. The first is a major expansion to the Darwin International Airport terminal facility, the second is the development of a “Home and Lifestyle” retail development adjacent to Bunnings in our Bagot Road commercial precinct. We believe both of these developments will bring significant benefit to our airport and the Darwin community.

Despite the industry challenges of September 11, the collapse of Ansett, SARS, Bali bombings and our current concerns about the rapidly escalating price of liquid fuels, we have been able to grow the business and provide better facilities for our airline customers and the public. We look forward to continuing that growth and achieving our vision to “Operate the most successful airport business in Australasia”.

Ian Kew

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DIA Passenger Terminal Expansion

Darwin International Airport is planning the biggest expansion in its history, with a $60 million investment that will:

- Expand the passenger terminal floor space by about 65 per cent in a modern, partial three-storey building at the east of the current terminal (covered by a draft Major Development Plan)
- Build new aprons to increase parking space for planes,
- Relocate staff car parking facilities
- Expand public car parking facilities by 160 spaces.

This is the first major capital investment in the passenger terminal since it opened in 1991. Until then, civil aviation facilities had been shared with the Department of Defence on the other side of the runway.

In the last 20 years airport traffic has grown rapidly. Although there have been major refurbishments to the terminal, car parks and approaches to the terminal, there has been no major change in the capacity of the terminal leading to congestion and declining service standards.

Rapid growth and the concentration of services into the peak period around midnight has placed pressure on the terminal’s operations. There are also constraints in the check-in hall, international baggage claims, passenger circulation and security screening.

The expansion is needed to support the growth of Darwin International Airport and cope with increased business and tourism visitors. The expansion will allow us to minimise connection times, make passenger flows more efficient, see baggage handling improved, improve efficiency and increase customer satisfaction.

The expansion will also allow for projected growth to 2015 with a partial three-storey building providing an additional 11,000 square metres of floor space and a new goods delivery area.

Improved facilities include enhanced security screening, a better retail precinct, separate baggage reclaim and arrivals areas for domestic and international passengers, more boarding gates to allow for simultaneous boarding and disembarking of passengers, and a dedicated goods delivery precinct from Cecil Cook Avenue.

The design of the terminal will allow for a later modular expansion.

There will be minimal environmental impacts from the expansion, as the new building will be built on a sealed area now used for car parking. The area will later be landscaped in accord with the airport’s Landscaping Masterplan developed by Greening Australia.

As our airport is on Commonwealth Land, it operates under the “Airports Act 1996”. This Act requires the airport to submit a Major Development Plan to the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government for major projects.

A Major Development Plan for the passenger terminal will be on display in the near future so the public can make comment. DIA will also conduct comprehensive stakeholder consultation to ensure the public can ask questions and have their say on the project when the Major Development Plan is released.
Darwin International Airport

ADG Celebrates 10 Year Anniversary

Until 1991, civil aviation facilities at the airport in Darwin were shared with the Department of Defence on the other side of the runway. In 1998, as part of the privatisations of Australia's airports, the Airport Development Group took over operations of Darwin, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek airports.

In the years since privatisation, passenger numbers have grown from approximately 1.1 million to 1.8 million at Darwin International Airport (DIA) with strong growth of 12 per cent a year experienced in the past 3 years.

DIA held a birthday celebration function on Wednesday 9th July at the Aviation Institute with all stakeholders and workers at the airport precinct invited.

This function also announced the biggest expansion in the airport's history, the terminal redevelopment. $60 million will be invested to expand the passenger terminal by around 65 percent.

In the past ten years, the Airport Development Group has spent over $100 million in capital investment on the airport, the vast majority of it on aviation related projects.

Late last year, it was announced that the next major development on airport land would be a home and lifestyle super centre, developed by joint venture partners Darwin International Airport and Ticor Developments.

Major Development Plans will be submitted shortly to the Federal Minister for Infrastructure for both the terminal expansion project and the home and lifestyle super centre, triggering an extensive community consultation process.

The traditional "signal red" vehicles, often referred to as "fire engine red", were found in investigations to be a contributing factor in many airside safety related incidents in Australia over the last 18 months.

The colour was changed following US Federal Airports Association's advice, and associations between vehicle colour and the rise in airside safety related incidents in Australia.

In International Airport

The colour of Airservices' Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) vehicles is changing from "signal red" to "yellowish-green". The change includes the fire vehicles reflective markings known as decals.

The new yellowish-green is the safest colour deemed most visible in all light and weather conditions according to international studies.

The colour was changed following US Federal Airports Association's advice, and associations between vehicle colour and the rise in airside safety related incidents in Australia.

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The traditional "signal red" vehicles, often referred to as "fire engine red", were found in investigations to be a contributing factor in many airside safety incidents including runway incursions. Signal red appears to be closest to black in colour at night to the human eye. By adopting the yellowish-green colour, Airservices are following the lead already set by overseas aviation, defence and domestic fire services as the standard colour for safety vehicles.

To provide consistency across the fleet, the ARFF will gradually introduce the yellowish-green colour to all airside vehicles with several Mark 8 Rosenbauer Panthers (3 have already been delivered to Darwin), costing over $1 million each.

The Panthers are built in Australia and are capable of responding to a category 9 event. These vehicles weigh 32 tonnes and have a top speed of 120kms per hour.

For more information on Air Services Australia, visit www.airservicesaustralia.com.au

ARFF Fire Vehicles get a new look

L-R, Jamie Hart, Anthony Hoban, Mark Jenkins, Shaun Cousins, Te Wiki Kiwikiwi on duty at DIA

ARTICLE PAGE 3 - The Northern Territory Airports Newsletter

ARTICLE PAGE 3 - The Northern Territory Airports Newsletter
Outback Airlines Inaugural Charter Flight

Outback Airlines is a new Northern Territory based regional airline operating from three main hubs in Alice Springs. Over the next two years, Outback Airlines intends to commence scheduled airline services to 30 destinations in NT, SA, WA and QLD, using brand new 11-seat Vulcanair (nee Partenavia) AP68TP-600 A-Viator twin-engine turbo-prop aircraft.

These aircraft offer twin-engine safety, jet-engine reliability, the latest all-new 'glass' cockpit with weather radar and a high-wing for passengers to enjoy the panoramic views with less noise from wing-mounted engines.

The A-Viator is based on the smaller Partenavia P68 of which over 450 have been built.

The A-Viator is also considerably faster than a Cessna Caravan and as well as having a longer range, uses less fuel an hour.

The superior speed plus lower operating costs make the A-Viator a viable 9-passenger aircraft for the thinnest routes in Australia.

Outback’s main routes stretch North-South from Darwin to Port Augusta and East-West from Mount Isa to Kalgoorlie, most with one or more intermediate ports. All routes are ‘anchored’ at both ends by a major city, town or community with a mixture of mining and tourism as well as community related needs.

Since originally conceived, trying to find a suitable aircraft type had been impossible as none existed - until the new Italian Vulcanair A-Viator arrived.

For more information on Outback Airlines visit www.outbackairlines.com.au or email Ross Pollock on airlinesonline@bigpond.com

University Studies Ants at Alice Springs Airport

Alice Springs Airport has a research site for the Centre of Integrative Study of Animal Behaviour - a research Group based at Macquarie University (Sydney) to study the behaviour of Melophorus bagoti, a desert ant. The study, headed up by Ken Cheng, results from studies by a Swiss National Science Foundation project led by Professor Rüdiger Wehner of Univ of Zurich which compares the navigational behaviours of desert ants in North African, South African and Australian deserts.

Wehner has been studying these ants for more than 30 years. His research has shown that they have an inbuilt navigation system, which rivals the high-tech global positioning system (GPS). They may be tiny, weighing just 10mg, but their ability to find their way back to their nests in a hostile and barren environment is remarkable. The study on the Australian Desert Ant, Melophorus bagoti, at the airport site commenced in 2007. It follows and is part of seven years of central Australian research at CSIRO and Simpsons Gap National Park on a variety of studies of foraging behaviour, life cycles and learning behaviour that has produced more than half a dozen Honours, Masters and PhD theses.

The deserts of Central Australia are richer in plant life, making it easier for M. bagoti to find dead insects for food. The research team are interested in comparing the navigational and learning behaviours of Melophorus with those of Cataglyphis."

The ants are one of few creatures to feed in daytime temperatures of up to 53 degrees and this specialised physiology and behaviour allows the ants to occupy a niche which allows them to avoid competition and predation. The surrounds of the balloon launch site provides a relatively uniform horizon in which to test the factors which influence navigational behaviour.

Professor Rüdiger Wehner, the director of Zurich University's zoology department, has been awarded one of the top accolades in Swiss science, the Marcel Benoist prize for his work on the behaviour of the Cataglyphis ant of the Sahara desert. The prize is awarded annually for a “discovery or study” that has made an outstanding contribution to Swiss science.

New Road Signage

New road signage has been installed at Alice Springs and Darwin Airport to assist our international visitors. The new signage details correct driving sides to ensure the safety of tourists unfamiliar with our road rules.

TOUCHDOWN page 4 - The Northern Territory Airports Newsletter
Jetstar launches Sydney Ho Chi Minh

From 1st September Jetstar will launch five flights per week Sydney-Darwin-Ho Chi Minh. This is the first time that any airline has offered direct services between Darwin and Vietnam. This new service also offers morning departures from Darwin to Sydney, which is ideal for business and leisure travellers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JQ73 Sydney-Darwin/Darwin-Ho Chi Minh</th>
<th>JQ74 Ho Chi Minh- Darwin/Darwin-Sydney</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depart Sydney 1325</td>
<td>Depart Ho Chi Minh 2225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrive Darwin 1645</td>
<td>Arrive Darwin 0620 +1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depart Darwin 1840</td>
<td>Depart Darwin 0835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrive Ho Chi Minh 2135</td>
<td>Arrive Sydney 1325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more details visits www.jetstar.com.au

Airnorth Acquires second E170 Jet

Airnorth celebrated its 30th birthday this month with the announcement that it will take delivery of another Embraer E170 Regional Jet within twelve months at a cost of $32M. The new aircraft will be delivered in April 2009 direct from the Embraer factory in Brazil, and will be the first advanced range E170 operating anywhere in the world.

The E170-AR will carry 76 passengers and has a flying range of more than four hours. This range will see Airnorth capable of operating services direct, and fully loaded, to every Australian capital city as well as Jakarta, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Manila.

Airnorth now carries some 250,000 passengers each year on commercial flights throughout the Northern Territory, Western Australia, Timor Leste and Indonesia. In addition to the scheduled services, Airnorth also operates air charter services for some of the world’s leading mining and offshore companies.

Airnorth’s Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders said “The customer response to the first jet has been overwhelmingly positive. We intend to continue to expand services into the communities that Airnorth currently service and plan to work with our industry partner Qantas to assess a number of new opportunities. Many of our contracted clients are also keen to get access to the aircraft, cementing our Board’s vision of operating four such aircraft by mid 2010.”

Tiger Airways Schedule Changes Melbourne and Singapore

From 18th August and 1st September, Tiger Airways will adjust its Singapore-Darwin and Melbourne-Darwin flying schedule in line with seasonal demand. Singapore-Darwin and Melbourne-Darwin services will now operate four services per week.

**Singapore-Darwin-Singapore**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon/Wed/Fri/Sun</th>
<th>Depart SIN 1810</th>
<th>Arrive DRW 1215</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon/Tue/Thu/Sat</td>
<td>Depart DRW 1255</td>
<td>Arrive SIN 0350</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The revised schedule will continue to provide short connections over Singapore to and from Phuket, Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh, Guangzhou and Haikou.

**Melbourne-Darwin-Melbourne**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday &amp; Saturday</th>
<th>Dep DRW 0220</th>
<th>Arr MEL 0705</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday &amp; Thursday</td>
<td>Dep: DRW 1205</td>
<td>Arr MEL 0450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Monday and Friday  | Dep MEL 1005 | Arr DRW 0150 + 1 |
| Wednesday and Sunday | Dep MEL 1905 | Arr DRW 2250 |

...and also for for Alice Springs

Effective 11th August, Tiger Airways will be changing its flight times to and from Alice Springs.

On Tuesday and Thursday, flights will now depart Melbourne at 1015, arriving into Alice Springs at 1235.

The return service will depart 1305, arriving into Melbourne at 1615.

Saturday flights depart Melbourne at 1345, arriving into Alice Springs at 1605. The return service will depart Alice Springs at 1635 and arrive into Melbourne at 1945.
Green Steps to Sustainability

NT Airports, as members of the Greenhouse Challenge Plus Program, report annually on business emissions and identify actions that we make to reduce our greenhouse footprint. This year, NT Airports teams up with the Monash Sustainability Institute’s “Greens Steps Program” to undertake this reporting. The Greens Step Program, in partnership with the Australian Greenhouse Office, trains undergraduate and post graduate students in organisational sustainability and change management. As part of their course, students are placed in an organisation to work on a project that delivers sustainability outcomes.

NT Airports were fortunate to have a fourth year medical student, Janie Maxwell, work with us for the last month. Janie explored NT Airports' greenhouse gas emissions and sustainability development, in particular assisting with the Greenhouse Challenge Reporting.

As part of NT Airport's commitment to its unique spectrum of environments, the business has voluntarily been part of the Australian Greenhouse Challenge program since 2002. The airport has also engaged Connell Wagner to review its sustainability performance and this led to a Sustainability Policy, a staff action group, and collaboration with the Power and Water Corporation to reduce power and water consumption at the airport. Darwin International Airport has also been nominated as a case study for the Australian Airports Association to report to the Department of Climate Change against the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007.

DIA Landscaping Features on ABC TV's Gardening Australia

Landscaping at Darwin International Airport was featured on the ABC TV show “Gardening Australia” on Saturday 28th June. The segment story covered the established landscaping throughout the Darwin International Airport (DIA) precinct that exclusively features native trees and plants.

The DIA precinct showcases different habitats from across the Top End and clearly demonstrates that local natives work well in a variety of relaxed, formal and even tough industrial car-park garden settings.

The entrance to the airport at Bunnings (Osgood Drive) was given particular prominence in this piece by the team at Gardening Australia.

To view the segment, visit www.ntairports.com.au and go to "media".

Darwin International Airport Wins Melaleuca Award

The 2008 Melaleuca Awards winners were announced at Parliament House (Darwin) on 18th June. There were four category winners, one recipient of an environment grant and the Chairman’s Award.

The category winners each received a Melaleuca Award, designed and produced by local artist Jon Firth, a certificate of Environmental Excellence and a Level One Water Audit from Power and Water.

A long standing relationship between Darwin International Airport (DIA) and Greening Australia (GA) has led to a partnership to implement a Conservation Reserve on airport land. The project implements strategies from a range of planning documents that used scientific and environmental information and extensive community consultation to establish environmental outcomes for the Rapid Creek catchment. It addresses DIA's commitment to protecting and enhancing the local environment and offset greenhouse gas emissions. Greening Australia's long-term involvement in the Rapid Creek catchment, in conjunction with the Darwin community, has been instrumental in ensuring the project's success.

The submission from DIA and Greening Australia

Janie Maxwell

TOUCHDOWN page 6 - The Northern Territory Airports Newsletter
Gateway to Health Kicks On

Employees are NT Airports' most valuable asset and the airport has a commitment to ensuring the health and wellbeing of its workforce. ‘Investing in employees is fundamental to the airport success and a key driver in continuing to be an employer of choice’ says Jill Holdsworth, Health, Safety & Environment Manager.

Since establishing a Health and Well Being Program three months ago, NT Airports staff have been involved in individual health screen assessments, monthly education seminars and workshops on healthy eating, back care and understanding health screen assessments.

Activities have included a mix of Pilates/Stretch classes, Boot Camp, walks along the scenic Rapid Creek in Darwin and the Olive Pink gardens in Alice Springs, and a series of events for the State of Origin Series Teams Pursuit.

Runway works at Darwin wins CCF Earth Awards

Pioneer Road Services took out the Category Three ($4 to $20 million sized projects) of the 2008 Civil Contractors Federation (CCF) Earth Awards for their work on the runway re-sheeting at Darwin International Airport.

The runway works included removing the existing pavement from the 3.2 kilometre runway surface by cold profiling, whilst meeting environmental management standards and keeping the airfield operational for civil and military flights. Technically complex, the works required innovation in concept and implementation.

The profiles asphalt removed from the runway has been reused for the perimeter roads around the airfield.

Branch winners immediately become National finalists and a national judging panel now makes a separate site visit to assess these projects. The winners will be announced at the National Conference Gala Dinner held at Hyatt Coolum, Sunshine Coast from October 29th to November 2nd 2008.

Contractor raises Safety Standards at Airport

P.W. Baxter & Associates (PWB) recently attained full accreditation with the Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner under the Australian Government Building and Construction OHS Accreditation Scheme. PWB is currently one of only four local construction companies to hold this accreditation. PWB already operates an OHS management system certified to Australian Standard 4801:2004.

The Federal Safety Accreditation Scheme presents a standard of OHS implementation that is higher than the AS 4801 standard.

The Federal Safety Commissioner's safety principles encourage all participants in the building and construction industry to strive for a higher level of safety, identifying senior management commitment as a key step in achieving a safety culture.

PWB has enjoyed a long working relationship with NT Airports, with projects conducted at both Darwin International Airport and Alice Springs Airport.
Corporate Giving Committee Donations for May/June

**McGrath Foundation**
A morning tea was held on Wednesday 25th June at DIA where $413.95 was raised to support the McGrath Foundation following the sad passing of Jane McGrath.

The McGrath Foundation is committed to continuing Jane's legacy by not only ensuring young women are encouraged to be breast aware, but by also continuing to raise valuable funds to support the placement of McGrath Breast Care Nurses throughout rural and regional Australia to help women diagnosed with breast cancer.

People wanting to show their support for the work of the McGrath Foundation can make a donation at any National Australia Bank. Account: McGrath Foundation Ltd Account Number: 589271582 BSB: 082-067 or visit [www.mcgrathfoundation.com.au](http://www.mcgrathfoundation.com.au)

**Roman Around Variety Bash Team**
The "Roman Around" Variety Bash team has been doing some serious fundraising in preparation for this year's "Bash", with their tally currently standing at $8,500. Last week they held a BBQ at the golf driving range and the Corporate Giving Committee were pleased to be able to donate funds to purchase food for the event. Their "Chariot" was on display at the V8 Supercar event last weekend, and they kick off their "Bash" journey on 23rd August. We wish the team - Laura Campbell, Alishia Carswell, Merv Pring and Kym Meys all the best for their trip.

**Red Nose Day**
Thanks to staff who purchased Red Nose products this year, we raised over $150 for SIDS research.

**Super Fit Staff Running Overseas**
Two of our finance team members, John Thyne and Peta Jeggo are off to Singapore on 13th July as part of the Northern Territory triathlon team to compete in a marathon. We wish John and Peta all the best for the event.

DIA Charity Golf Day - Friday 1st August
The famous annual DIA Charity Golf Day this year takes place on Friday 1st August at the Darwin Golf Club (Marrara). This year's players card is jam packed with a capacity 36 team field and a total of 144 players joining in the fun this year.

Our nominated charity to benefit from this year's fund raiser is The Fred Hollows Foundation, specifically their "Literacy Programme for Kids" which operates in the Northern Territory.

This event would not be possible without the significant contributions of our generous sponsors to which we offer our sincere thanks.

There are some fabulous prizes on offer this year in our raffle including trips to Singapore and flat screen TV's. Tickets are available at both the DIA Management Centre and terminal reception desks for $2 a ticket.

Enquiries: Crystal Fostel 8920 1815.

New Faces

- Nara Vajrathorn
  CAD Technical Officer
  Technical Team
  DIA Management Centre

- Selina Pollard
  Legal Counsel
  Property Division
  DIA Management Centre

- Sean Wood
  Health, Safety & Environment Officer
  DIA Management Centre

- Simone Sharp
  Terminal Duty Manager - Night
  Operations Team, DIA Terminal

- Lisa Cox
  Technical Assistant (Temp contract)
  Technical Team
  DIA Management Centre

New Roles


Stuart has been with NT Airports since 2006 and, prior to his promotion, was Airport Planning and Development Manager. Seconded from BAA (UK) to assist in the delivery of NT Airports Capital Plan, Stuart is also currently leading the development of the $60M Terminal Development Programme for Darwin International Airport.

His predecessor, John Diggins, assumes the role of “Airside Project Manager” with his first major project being the Alice Springs Airport runway overlay and the commencement of works for the construction of two new aircraft parking bays at Darwin international Airport.

Finally, Chris Bigg has been appointed as team leader for our Masterplan team. The next Masterplan is due to be completed by September of 2009, with the project to commence immediately.