

MEDIA RELEASE

Archerfield Airport Appointment

Gerard Campbell, the former Manager of the Royal Queensland Aero Club (RQAC), has been appointed CEO of Archerfield Airport Corporation.

Mr Campbell will oversee the development of the airport under a Master Plan that aims to realise Archerfield's potential as a quality secondary aviation facility. Under the Plan, the airport's focus on aviation will be strengthened, and available airport land will be developed to create a centre of excellence for aeronautical and related industries.

Mr Campbell, who is also a pilot, brings extensive industry experience to the job. When appointed to the RQAC in 1998, he took on the challenge of turning around an organisation with depleted cash reserves and rundown assets. Today the Club trades profitably, employs 40 staff, operates more than 20 aircraft, and is renewing assets.

Under his direction, the Club became Queensland's first pilot training organisation to secure a contract to train pilots for a major overseas airline. The contract with China Airlines is now in its fifth year. The Club also provides training to Griffith University's School of Aviation Bachelor Degree Program, and secured (with the university) a major contract to supply pilot training to the United Arab Emirates Airforce Cadet School.

In addition to his RQAC role, Mr Campbell was Chairman of Fly Archerfield (an organisation promoting the interests of aviation companies at Archerfield Airport), CEO of the Airline Academy of Australia (an RQAC business unit set up to exploit opportunities in a changing airline market) and CEO of ATEA Pty Ltd (a registered training organisation formed by RQAC to meet a demand for quality aircraft engineer training in Queensland).

Managing Director of Archerfield Airport Corporation (AAC), Gavin Bird, said Mr Campbell was selected from a very strong field of applicants.

"Gerard has always had a very high standing at the airport, and he will bring a new dimension to our operations," he said. "He also takes on a big job, which is to preserve our traditional role and unearth the broader potential of Archerfield Airport. This might involve conducting regular passenger transport services, catering for corporate jets, hosting international flying training with the new development in multi-crew pilot licence training, or a combination of all of these and other initiatives. The Corporation is very focused on rejuvenating general aviation not just at Archerfield Airport, but Australia-wide; and we expect Gerard to play a significant role in achieving this," he said.

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