

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP

Minister for Industry Support and Recovery

Minister for Trade

Minister for Business Precincts

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Racing



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TAKE-OFF: NEW AVIATION JOBS LAND AT TULLAMARINE

Victoria's aviation industry will benefit from an influx of new jobs as the sector begins to recover from the effects of the pandemic and looks to the future of flying.

With support from the Victorian Government, Australia's largest independent aerospace composites manufacturer Quickstep Holdings Limited is expanding its maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) operations at Tullamarine, having recently acquired the capabilities from Boeing Australia.

The company's \$3.94 million investment will expand the facility at Tullamarine and create 63 full-time jobs, including 51 jobs in aircraft maintenance and engineering. By strengthening local capabilities and skilled jobs, domestic airline operators will be able to carry out aviation maintenance that had previously moved offshore.

Returning jobs to the aviation sector will support growth and recovery from the pandemic, with the benefits to flow through Victoria's local supply chain.

As a specialist MRO service provider, Quickstep is planning to expand its offerings with upgrades to the Tullamarine facilities, equipment and business processes.

The company aims to provide industry-leading advanced composite, bonded and conventional metal aircraft structures and MRO capabilities for local airlines and airlines across the Asia Pacific region.

Victoria's aviation sector employs around 6,700 people and contributes approximately \$1.7 billion to the economy each year. The sector's revitalisation will be an important part of the state's economic recovery.

The Victorian Government is backing industry-led economic growth including through the *Manufacturing Industry and Development Fund* that is supporting Victorian manufacturers to expand their operations and implement new technologies.

Building advanced manufacturing capabilities in the state will help create innovation, local jobs and economic growth.

For information on the *Manufacturing Industry and Development Fund*, visit: business.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Industry Support and Recovery Martin Pakula

"New investments are boosting maintenance and engineering jobs, and providing confidence for a steady recovery in the aviation sector."

"The benefits will flow beyond Quickstep to supply companies and their workers, and the growth in jobs and manufacturing capabilities will entrench Victoria as a regional leader in the sector."

Quote attributed to Quickstep chief executive Mark Burgess

"This is an important partnership with the Victorian Government, which has demonstrated strong support for the aviation sector's recovery. We are proud to be making joint investments in the future of aviation in the state."

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