



Our ref: AA1000580
Contact officer: Tom Whitby
Contact phone: 02 6243 1012

23 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra ACT 2601
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601
tel: (02) 6243 1111

14/10/2021

exemptions@acc.gov.au
www.acc.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Singapore Airlines Limited and Deutsche Lufthansa AG application for revocation of authorisation AA60295-3 and substitution of AA1000580 – interested party consultation

On 23 September 2021, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) received an application for re-authorisation from Singapore Airlines Limited and Deutsche Lufthansa AG (**the Applicants**) (revocation and substitution). This letter is to invite you to comment. You are welcome to pass this letter on to others who may wish to make submissions.

The Applicants are seeking re-authorisation¹ under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth). Re-authorisation would give them legal protection to continue to coordinate their operations between Singapore Airlines Home Markets and Lufthansa Home Markets. The Applicants are seeking re-authorisation for a further five years. A full copy of the application for re-authorisation is available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Interim authorisation

The Applicants have also requested interim authorisation to allow them to engage in the proposed conduct between the expiry of authorisation AA60295-3 on 10 December 2021 and the ACCC's final determination on the substantive application for re-authorisation.

Making a submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the application for re-authorisation. In making your submission, please provide information, evidence and views about the likely public benefits, effects on competition and any other public detriment that you consider will result from the proposed conduct.

Further, the ACCC invites you to tell us about your experience of the coordination of Singapore Airlines and Lufthansa's operations during the term of the previous authorisation. The ACCC is particularly interested in the public benefits and detriments you have observed as a result of the conduct to date.

If you intend to provide a submission, please do so by **5 November 2021**. If you wish to request an extension, please contact us on the details below as early as possible. Submissions after the due date (or after any extension granted) may not be taken into account.

¹ For information about Authorisations, please see <https://www.accc.gov.au/business/exemptions/authorisation>

Please use the coversheet that accompanied this letter and email your submission to exemptions@acc.gov.au, with the subject 'AA1000580 – Singapore Airlines and Lufthansa – submission'. Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Tom Whitby via the details at the end of this letter.

Your submission **will** be placed on the ACCC's [authorisations public register on the internet](#) unless you have made a request (with reasons) for us to exclude part or all of the submission from the public register. (see [Guidelines for Excluding Information from the Public Register for more information on how to make a request and how we assess requests](#)).

Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information, and an up to date version (including any changes) will be posted on the public register.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
23 September 2021	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
14 October 2021	Public consultation process begins.
5 November 2021	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
November 2021	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
November/December 2021	Draft determination and interim authorisation decision. An interim authorisation decision will be made before 10 December 2021.
December 2021/January 2022	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
February/March 2022	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Tom Whitby on 02 6243 1012 or exemptions@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Gavin Jones
Director
Competition Exemptions

Interested Party List

Air China
Air France
All Nippon Airways
British Airways
Cathay Pacific Airways
China Airlines
China Eastern Airlines
China Southern Airlines
Delta Air Lines
Emirates
Etihad Airways
Finnair
Garuda Indonesia
Hainan Airlines
Japan Airlines
KLM
Malaysia Airlines
Philippines Airlines
Qantas Airways Limited
Royal Brunei Airlines
Sichuan Airlines
Thai Airways
United Airlines
Vietnam Airlines
Virgin Atlantic
Virgin Australia
Xiamen Airlines
Adelaide Airport
Airport Coordination Australia (ACA)
Airservices Australia
Alpha Flight Services
Australian & International Pilots Association
Australian Airports Association (AAA)
Australian Licenced Aircraft Engineers Association
Australian Services Union
Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB)
Brisbane Airport Corporation Limited
Cairns Airport
Canberra Airport
Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)
Executive Gourmet
Gate Aviation
Hobart Airport
International Air Services Commission
Melbourne Airport
Menzies Aviation
North Queensland Airports
Patrick Air Services
Perth Airport
Queensland Airports Limited
Regional Aviation Association of Australia (RAAA)
Swissport
Sydney Airport Corporation Limited
Virgin International Pilots Association

Wymap Group
AUSTRADE
Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (NT)
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (Vic)
Tourism Australia
Tourism Commission (SA)
Tourism NSW
Tourism Queensland
Tourism Victoria
Tourism WA
VisitCanberra
Accor
Australian Chamber - Tourism
Australian Federation of Travel Agents
Australian Tourism Export Council
Australian Tourism Industry Council
Queensland Tourism Industry Council
Tourism and Events Queensland (Queensland Government)
Tourism and Transport Forum
Tourism Tropical North Queensland
Transport Workers Union of Australia
Australian Industry Group
Caltex
ExxonMobil Aviation