

**Submission by CT Partners Pty Ltd-7 November 2024**

CT Partners supports the proposed alliance between Virgin Australia and Qatar Airways as it would reduce risk, provide increased consumer choice and optimal route connectivity for business and leisure passengers. Into Europe, the QF/EK codeshare alliance currently includes more than 50% of the capacity. This may lead to increased airfares caused as a result of the reduced competition. The quality of the Qatar Airways product and service is reliable. They have been a strong supporter of the Australian market for the past 15 years, and are also supportive of the Australian travel trade. Virgin Australia would also benefit greatly from access to Qatar Airways' fleet, technology and reporting systems which would improve the customer experience both domestically and internationally.