

# Media release

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## Construction starts on aviation fire station at Coffs Harbour

Airservices Australia will this week commence construction of a new \$11.4 million aviation rescue fire station at Coffs Harbour Airport.

The station, when completed and operational, will see the introduction of a new aviation fire service at the airport, providing an added layer of safety to airport users.

Airservices Executive General Manager Projects and Engineering, Mark Rodwell, said that the new fire station was being built following a sustained increase in passenger numbers which took it above the regulatory trigger for an airport fire service.

“Coffs Harbour Airport is one of the largest and busiest regional airports in New South Wales, handling a number of different types of aircraft,” Mr Rodwell said.

“Last year there were more than 27,000 aircraft movements through the airport, carrying more than 350,000 passengers. This increase in growth has necessitated the introduction of aviation fire rescue services at Coffs Harbour.”

The Coffs Harbour Airport fire station is based on a modular, standardised design which includes two vehicle bays, a vehicle maintenance bay and workshop and administration areas.

Onsite training facilities will include a classroom and a combined cold smoke, gas fire and ladder access training facility.

“This project reflects our ongoing commitment to the development and implementation of infrastructure to make aviation safer and more efficient, particularly in regional Australia,” Mr Rodwell said.

“The fire station will ensure we are well placed to meet projected growth in regional air services and, in conjunction with an existing air traffic control service at the airport, will ensure we can provide safe, efficient air traffic operations well into the future.”

The successful contractor is St Hilliers Property and construction is due to be completed by November 2014. This will be followed by a fit-out of the structure and commissioning period, with services due to commence in early 2015.

The Coffs Harbour station is one of five new aviation fire stations under construction by Airservices around the country. Airports at Ballina, Gladstone and Newman are set to receive new aviation fire services following the completion of construction of new stations. Port Hedland will receive a new fire station later this year following the re-introduction of services in 2013.

**For media inquiries contact Airservices Media on (02) 6257 2828 or by emailing [media@airservicesaustralia.com](mailto:media@airservicesaustralia.com)**