

Fact Sheet: CURFEW-FREE OPERATION

Melbourne Airport's curfew-free status contributes to productivity and therefore economic gains for Victoria

- In 2007/08, the absence of a night-time curfew at Melbourne Airport contributes around \$309 million to state product and \$77 million to the local value of production and is expected to rise over time.
- In 2007/08, 24 hour operation at Melbourne Airport facilitates around 1,156 jobs locally, and 4,642 jobs state-wide.
- In 2012, the absence of a night-time curfew on operations at Melbourne Airport is expected to contribute around \$385 million in production.
- 24 hour operation enables greater flexibility in scheduling flights from Melbourne to match available landing slots at key overseas destinations, increasing the attraction of Melbourne to international airlines. It also reduces the cost of operating in Melbourne for international (and to a lesser extent domestic) carriers as they do not lose valuable time on the ground waiting for a curfew to lift.
- Given time differences and average flight times between Melbourne and major South East Asian destinations, the lack of a curfew also provides the convenience of departing Melbourne late at night and arriving the following morning.
- Estimates indicate that if a curfew was applied to Melbourne, approximately 9.2 per cent of all flights would be vulnerable to the curfew. This equates to around 158 flights per week.
- Whilst some of these services may be able to be relocated, many of these services - particularly international passenger flights to South East Asia - are only scheduled as a result of Melbourne Airport's availability around the clock. These flights would cease in the event of a night time curfew, bringing an associated loss of employment, passenger movements and freight opportunities.