



**PORT HEDLAND
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT**

MEDIA RELEASE

Location Port Hedland International Airport (PHIA)
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Regional aviation veteran to take up lead role at Port Hedland International Airport

Leading Western Australia regional airport, Port Hedland International Airport, today announced experienced aviation figure Dave Batic would become the new Chief Executive Officer of the vital Pilbara transport gateway.

Mr Batic has over 35 years' experience in the defence and civil aviation industry, he is currently the General Manager of Alice Springs and Tennant Creek Airports.

Port Hedland International Airport Chairman, the Hon. Cheryl Edwardes AM, said Mr Batic was a ready-made replacement for outgoing PHIA GM Rod Evans, who is returning to Perth.

"Dave has built a significant depth of knowledge of regional airport operations during senior positions in the Northern Territory and Queensland. He has also been a strong champion for attracting more visitors to regional Australia and has served as Chairman of Tourism Central Australia," she said.

Mr Batic said he was excited to join the PHIA team and become part of the Port Hedland community.

"The airport is going through a positive transformation and plays such a critical role for industry, it also connects Port Hedland people to other places and is a gateway for those who want to come and see what the Pilbara has to offer," he said.

Mr Batic will take up the role at the beginning of 2022, the position will be filled on an interim basis by existing management following Mr Evans return to Perth this month.

Mrs Edwardes said the Board was looking forward to Mr Batic keeping up the momentum which had seen PHIA develop new commercial opportunities and invest in significant airside works, improved parking and hire car facilities since taking up the long-term lease of the airport.

"We are getting things done and a key focus for us in the short to medium term will be the terminal upgrade which will deliver a modern, functional and welcoming building," she said.

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About the Port Hedland International Airport - The PHIA Group of Companies (PHIA Group) is the lessee and operator of the Port Hedland International Airport. The PHIA Group is 5 years into a 50 Year Lease with the Town of Port Hedland (ToPH).

PHIA Group's underlying investors, managed by AMP Capital and Infrastructure Capital Group, are preeminent Australian infrastructure investors committed to investing in the Port Hedland International Airport with the goal of it becoming one of Australia's best regional airports."