



## ASX Release

### NEXTDC DELIVERS PRIVATE CONNECTIVITY TO MICROSOFT AZURE USING EXPRESSROUTE

**BRISBANE, Australia – 24 February, 2015.** NEXTDC Limited (**ASX: NXT**) (“NEXTDC”), one of Australia’s leading Data-Centre-as-a-Service infrastructure providers today announced that it has signed an agreement with Microsoft to enable direct cloud connectivity to Microsoft Azure via ExpressRoute from NEXTDC data centres in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra and Perth.

The ExpressRoute service connects NEXTDC customers directly to Azure through a private, high-speed, low latency fibre connection, rather than a general internet-based connection, with latency levels as low as one millisecond possible in some locations. This results in increased security, reduced network costs and improved performance and reliability, while still allowing access to the multitude of network service providers that are part of the NEXTDC ecosystem.

The public cloud platform, Azure, enables users to quickly build, deploy and manage applications using any language, tool or framework. It is commonly used for key hybrid workloads that include big data, storage, backup and recovery, productivity applications and media.

Microsoft’s physical infrastructure for Azure ExpressRoute is available via a NEXTDC switching fabric that provides more secure connectivity and real-time provisioning. By connecting to ExpressRoute at NEXTDC, and with the support of NEXTDC’s rich partner carrier ecosystem, companies are able to bridge their cloud and data centre strategies nationally, allowing full integration between cloud services and internal applications, benefitting from flexible and dynamic bandwidth through automated network provisioning.

Craig Scroggie, NEXTDC’s CEO, said the collaboration is enabling hybrid cloud strategies and expanding the horizons of businesses housing IT infrastructure in NEXTDC’s world-class data centres. “Microsoft’s commitment to the Australian market addresses many concerns of Australian businesses on data sovereignty by ensuring their cloud platform is hosted locally, and accessed through a private, more secure connection.”

“NEXTDC’s neutral data centre environment offers improved security, performance and a nationally consistent experience for enterprises that are moving into the cloud, and create high-performance, public, private and hybrid cloud solutions that best fit their objectives.” he continued. “Through our collaboration with Microsoft, we can open up a myriad of new opportunities for hybrid cloud computing models. This relationship continues to strengthen Australia’s largest nationwide carrier and vendor neutral ecosystem, demonstrating NEXTDC’s ‘Where the cloud lives’ philosophy.”

Toby Bowers, Microsoft Cloud and Enterprise, Business Group Lead commented that it is Microsoft’s goal to create Australia’s best and most complete cloud, enabled by world-class technology and our cloud ecosystem. “The relationship with NEXTDC gives customers another seamless way to extend their on-premise networks to Microsoft Azure by strategically using NEXTDC’s data centre footprint. This is a great step in enabling businesses in all major cities across Australia to extend their enterprise cloud strategies,” said Mr Bowers.

The ExpressRoute service will be available from NEXTDC data centres starting Q2 calendar 2015.

**ENDS**



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## About NEXTDC

As Australia's leading Data-Centre-as-a-Service (DCaaS) provider, NEXTDC is revolutionising cloud computing in Australia.

An ASX300 company and the only independent data centre operator with a strategic footprint in all major growth markets in Australia, NEXTDC offers a range of highly flexible, resilient and secure colocation services to corporate, government and IT services companies.

NEXTDC's purpose-built facilities have been designed to address the market's growing appetite for energy efficient carrier-neutral data centres in which organisations can host critical IT infrastructure and selectively source services through their diverse national ecosystem.

NEXTDC is *where the cloud lives*<sup>TM</sup>.

To learn more, visit [www.nextdc.com](http://www.nextdc.com)