



ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

Melbourne, 15 March 2022

HELLOWORLD WELCOMES LIFTING OF CRUISE SHIPS BAN

Helloworld Travel Limited (ASX: HLO) today welcomed the Federal Government's decision to lift the ban on international cruise ships effective 17 April 2022.

"This has been a long time coming and agents and their clients across Australia are both relieved and thrilled that this ban is finally coming to an end" said HLO CEO, Andrew Burnes.

Pre-Covid cruise sales made up on average a third or more of most HLO network agents' leisure sales and also contributed significantly to their air and land sales as well. Total cruise sales across the HLO business in Australia were over \$1 billion in FY19.

"The lifting of this ban will make a material difference to the sales of our agents and of Helloworld's leisure travel divisions, both retail and wholesale. The Federal Government has indicated the final decision on opening ports rests with each State Government and we look forward to that occurring as soon as possible" said Mr Burnes.

In other good news, HLO advises that flight bookings are now running at over 50% of FY19 volumes and continuing to climb.

HLO advised that total air sales (new bookings) YTD to 6 March 2022 were \$547 million, up 121% on last year's total of \$248 million, with the greatest growth coming from its leisure networks.

"We've seen a steady increase in air sales across the business since mid-January and booking levels are now at over 50% of pre-Covid levels. These increases are consistent across all networks and across all States and Territories. It's a credit to our agents that they have been able to steer a course through these incredibly tough times and now finally begin to grow again" said Mr Burnes.

-ENDS-

Authorised for release by Helloworld Travel Limited's Board of Directors.

Andrew Burnes, AO
Chief Executive Officer

About Helloworld Travel Limited

Helloworld Travel Limited (ASX: HLO) is a leading Australian & New Zealand travel distribution company, comprising retail travel networks, corporate travel management services, destination management services (inbound), air ticket consolidation, wholesale travel services, and online operations.

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