Hobart Airport
TASMANIA

4 April 2025

Australian Communications and Media Authority
Level 3
40 Cameron Avenue
Belconnen ACT 2617

Dear ACMA

We write to request a review of the current licensing arrangements for body scanners used in aviation security screening.

Hobart Airport is committed to adopting technological innovations that enhance safety, security, operational efficiency, and the overall passenger experience. In recent years, significant advancements have been made in security screening technologies, particularly in body scanning systems. However, the existing regulatory framework does not fully support the integration of these advancements within the aviation environment.

Body scanners are a critical component of the aviation security framework, providing robust detection capabilities to mitigate potential threats. Hobart Airport currently operates Leidos ProVision 3 body scanners under a recently renewed apparatus licence. While this licensing pathway enables continued use in the short term, it provides no certainty for the deployment of next-generation body scanning technologies beyond the current licence expiry of 31 May 2027.

The ProVision 3 system, incorporating expanded radiofrequency capability, delivers substantial operational and security benefits, including improved detection of concealed objects through clothing, enhanced image resolution, and reduced false alarm rates. These improvements directly contribute to stronger security outcomes and more efficient passenger processing.

We acknowledge and appreciate that a scientific licence has been reissued to enable a further 12-month trial of ProVision 3 devices. However, Hobart Airport remains concerned that, in the absence of a review of class licensing arrangements within ACMA's 2026–31 work program, the expiry of the trial licence may necessitate a reversion to legacy ProVision 2 systems. This would materially impact Hobart Airport's ability to maintain compliance with the Aviation Transport Security Act 2004.

As Tasmania's primary passenger gateway, Hobart Airport must ensure that its security screening framework continues to support increasing passenger volumes while maintaining regulatory compliance and adopting best-in-class technology.

6 Hinkler Rd
Cambridge
Tasmania 7170

03 6216 1600
info@hobartairport.com.au
hobartairport.com.au

Accordingly, we respectfully request that ACMA consider inclusion of this matter in its upcoming work program.

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Kind Regards



Wade Irvine
Head of Security
Hobart Airport