




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Alliance Airlines, Hawker Pacific

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.45 am): Yesterday we heard about Queensland's great success in the contract process for Australia's next generation infantry fighting vehicle. It is not just on land where the Palaszczuk Labor government is creating more jobs for Queenslanders. I am pleased to inform the House that Australian aviation and aerospace leader Hawker Pacific has announced that it will be performing heavy maintenance on Alliance Airline's permanent line of Fokker aircraft in Hawker Pacific's newly extended Cairns facility.

With the support of the Palaszczuk Labor government's \$175 million Jobs and Regional Growth Fund, Hawker Pacific expanded its Cairns hangar by 50 per cent, allowing it to carry out this type of valuable maintenance work in Far North Queensland. In doing so, we have helped create 38 new jobs so far. This increased work from Alliance Airlines comes after the Palaszczuk government's Advance Queensland Industry Attraction Fund helped Alliance expand its Queensland operations and establish a new base in Rockhampton.

Alliance Airlines now operates the world's largest fleet of Fokker aircrafts, featuring more than 40 planes ranging from the twin turbojet F50 to the 100-seat Fokker F100. This is a great partnership, supported by our government, meaning more jobs in regional Queensland will take flight. The project in Rockhampton alone is expected to generate \$12.5 million in capital expenditure and support up to 30 new full-time jobs in its first year of operation—growing to 58 jobs over the next five years.

It is worth adding that the Alliance Airlines aircraft that Hawker Pacific will be servicing were previously maintained in Europe, making this another big reshoring result for Queensland. It also highlights the success of the Palaszczuk Labor government's 10-year road map and action plan for aerospace, which prioritises growing Queensland's aerospace industry and creating more highly skilled jobs for our state. With support from the Palaszczuk Labor government, we now see two world-class companies working together to create more aviation maintenance work for Queensland. This means more highly skilled jobs for Queenslanders, particularly in our regions, which is great news for our state.