

FLIGHT CENTRE LIMITED EXPANDS US OPERATION

INTERNATIONAL travel group Flight Centre Limited (FLT) today announced a new United States structure.

The new structure will see Dean Smith become president of Flight Centre USA, which now includes the Liberty retail travel brand, the GOGO Worldwide Vacations wholesale brand and the FCm Travel Solutions corporate travel management network.

Prior to becoming part of Flight Centre USA, the FCm operations in Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Dallas, Boston and Chicago were managed as a division of FLT's Canada corporate travel business.

FLT managing director Graham Turner said Liberty, GOGO and FCm would generate in the order of \$US2billion in total transactions annually in the United States and were poised for further growth under Mr Smith's leadership.

"The combined USA operation will be one of FLT's largest global businesses and will generate about 20% of our company's global sales this year," Mr Turner said.

"Dean has a proven record of success, both in the United States and in Australia, and will lead the leisure, corporate and wholesale businesses as they enter the next phase in their development."

Mr Smith was formerly GOGO Worldwide Vacations' United States president and has worked for FLT for 13 years. He started his career with the company as a retail travel agent in Australia and later ran FLT's Infinity Holidays wholesale brand.

With Mr Smith's promotion and Liberty president Cathy Pelaez's impending retirement, Flight Centre USA's new management team will also comprise:

- Natalie Benson, chief financial officer
- Billy McDonough, Liberty Travel
- Michele Kish, GOGO

- Gregory Lording, FCm Travel Solutions; and
- Mark Benson, global product

Mrs Pelaez has elected to step down next month, after overseeing the integration of the Liberty and Flight Centre businesses in conjunction with FLT's Sue Rennick. FLT acquired Liberty on February 1 2008.

"Cathy has made an enormous contribution and was integral in shaping Liberty's strong customer service commitment and the careers of many of the business's leaders," Mr Turner said.

"We thank her for her dedication, passion and leadership, particularly in the year since the business became part of Flight Centre Limited, and wish her well for the future."

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