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SUBJECT Air New Zealand – Singapore Airlines alliance approved		

Air New Zealand welcomes the decision today by the New Zealand Minister of Transport to approve the alliance between Air New Zealand and Singapore Airlines.

"It's very pleasing to receive regulatory approval for this alliance which will enable us to grow our network with operations between Auckland and Singapore in the very near future," says Air New Zealand Chief Executive Officer Christopher Luxon.

"We look forward to working with our colleagues at Singapore Airlines to boost capacity between New Zealand and Singapore which will deliver some great benefits to our customers and other stakeholders in the New Zealand tourism industry," says Mr Luxon.

The approval follows the clearance of the alliance by the Competition Commission of Singapore.

The two carriers will announce on sale and operational dates for alliance services shortly.

Ends