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Connect Consortium Bids for Sydney Airport

Sydney (ots) -

The Connect Consortium - comprising ABN AMRO Bank, Challenger, Egis, Fraport AG Frankfurt Airport Services Worldwide, and Schiphol Group - delivered an "indicative bid" today to the Government of Australia for the 100 percent privatization of Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport (KSA). Sydney Airport is the country's main hub for both Australian Airlines/Star Alliance and for Qantas/OneWorld. In 2000, KSA ranked 36 in the world with 23.6 million passengers and 29 with almost 565,000 metric tons of air cargo. Well-managed by the Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd. (SACL), KSA also contributed to the memorable success of the Sydney 2000 Summer Olympic Games.

ABN AMRO is one of the leading investment banks in the world. Along with being a major financial player in the air transport sector, ABN AMRO has a strong presence in the Asia/Pacific region and is Europe's fifth largest bank. Challenger is a financial services company listed on the Australian stock exchange, Egis is a global infrastructure company owned by the French CDC financial group.

Fraport AG and Schiphol Group - both internationally active airport companies - are the respective managers of Frankfurt Airport (FRA) and Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS), two of the most significant global air transportation hubs. Frankfurt Airport is number seven worldwide (number two in Europe) with 49.4 million passengers in 2000; number eight worldwide (number one in Europe) in terms of air cargo with 1.7 million metric tons. Likewise, Amsterdam Schiphol Airport ranks number ten worldwide (number four in Europe) with 39.6 million passengers last year. Handling 1.3 million metric tons last year, Amsterdam ranks as the number 15 cargo airport in the world (number four in Europe). All airport figures are from the ACI Airports Council International (air cargo includes airmail tonnage).

ots Originaltextservice: Fraport AG
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