

News Release

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**INFLITE EXPANDS SKYDIVE & SCENIC FLIGHT OPERATIONS: ACQUIRES SKYDIVE ABEL TASMAN AND NELSON TASMAN AIR, TO OPEN SKYDIVE MT COOK**

INFLITE, one of New Zealand’s leading aviation tourism companies, has greatly expanded its skydive operations today announcing the acquisition of Skydive Abel Tasman and in September, the opening of Skydive Mt Cook. Nelson Tasman Air also joins INFLITE, adding to its scenic flight experiences throughout New Zealand.

The new businesses complement existing operations Skydive Franz Josef, Mount Cook Ski Planes and Helicopters, INFLITE Taupo, INFLITE Auckland and INFLITE Charters.

Skydive Abel Tasman has been operated by founder Stuart Bean for almost 30 years. A life-long skydiver who did his first jump at age 19, Bean’s now regarded as amongst the best in the business with more than 17,000 skydives to his name and is also a commercial pilot with over 3000 hours. Bean will remain involved with the business.

Says Bean, “I am delighted to have the business transfer to a company with the same culture and values I share with the team in Abel Tasman. My staff are looking forward to the opportunities that a nationwide operator can bring and have really supported me through the process. I believe the company is in good hands with a bright future ahead.”

The acquisition of Skydive Abel Tasman adds a dedicated and experienced team of skydive staff to the existing INFLITE team, along with an additional Pilatus PC-6 Porter to its fleet.

Nelson Tasman Air offer stunning scenic flights in both helicopters and fixed wing aircraft flying into the Abel Tasman National Park. This business complements Skydive Abel Tasman, located side-by-side at Motueka Airport.

Skydive Mt Cook will open in September 2019 in a brand-new purpose-built facility at Pukaki Airport. INFLITE has operated Mount Cook Ski Planes and Helicopters since 2015.

INFLITE CEO Adam Joyce says, “INFLITE is embarking on an exciting period of growth. These are significant developments for us and have been in the works for some time. This greatly expands our product offering in New Zealand and cements our commitment to delivering incredible visitor experiences. We’re thrilled to welcome the teams at Skydive Abel Tasman and Nelson Tasman Air into the company.”

Skydive Abel Tasman is a unique and unforgettable freefall experience, offering incredible views of both the North and South Islands. At Skydive Mt Cook, visitors will be able to choose from 9,000ft, 13,000ft or 16,500ft jumps with views of Aoraki/Mt Cook, Lake Pukaki, Lake Tekapo, both the East and West Coasts and Te Wāhipounamu - South West New Zealand World Heritage Area.

Say's Joyce, "By combining and sharing expertise and knowledge across all our locations, will enable us to improve the quality and increase capacity of all of our experiences.

Having multiple successful businesses under the umbrella of INFLITE offers our customers variety and choice, with a consistent customer experience".

*Ends*

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## ABOUT INFLITE

INFLITE is a leading aviation tourism operator with nationwide coverage. INFLITE have a fleet of over 15 aircraft and a range of spectacular experiences. INFLITE also provide luxury air travel solutions and lodge transfers through its Charter division.

Mount Cook Ski Planes & Helicopters have 64 years experience flying around Aoraki/Mt Cook and Westland/Tai Poutini National Parks and landing on the iconic Tasman, Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers.

Skydive Franz Josef are NZ's original high altitude skydivers who pioneered the 20,000ft skydive commercially in New Zealand. Their signature skydive featured in Red Bull's list of Top 9 Insane Places to Skydive.

Skydive Abel Tasman have been operating for almost 30 years and jump over the stunning landscapes of the Abel Tasman National Park.

Nelson Tasman Air offer four stunning scenic flight options by helicopter or plane.

INFLITE are committed to sustainable tourism through partnerships with the Abel Tasman Tree Collective, Motutapu Restoration and Kea Conservation Trusts'. INFLITE are proudly Qualmark Gold and have committed to planting a tree for every hour their aircraft fly.