



Tasmanian Polar Network Inc - ABN 78 858 182 400

Email: info@tasmanianpolarnetwork.com.au

www.tasmanianpolarnetwork.com.au

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW RUNWAY TO SUPPORT SCIENCE AND RESEARCH IN EAST ANTARCTICA

The Tasmanian Polar Network welcomes the announcement of a new paved runway to be built near Davis research station in Antarctica.

The 2700m long runway will be located near Davis research station, which is almost 5000 kilometres from Hobart. Davis research station is currently only accessible during the Australian summer by icebreaker or via internal flights using small aircraft, which have constraints and challenges.

The Chair of the Tasmanian Polar Network, Richard Fader believes it will re-inforce Tasmania's position as the leading gateway for serving economic and scientific activity in the East Antarctic region.

"The new runway will provide further opportunities for the diverse range of Tasmanian businesses and organisations which supply products and services to the already significant \$180 million dollar Antarctic market" said Mr Fader.

The availability of year-round access should see an increase in the scale of operations in the East Antarctic region and enable more opportunities for international science and logistic collaboration.

Further information

Richard Fader
Chairman
Tasmanian Polar Network
Ph 0418 120 491

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