

**ASX Announcement** 

# Delta Drone International Granted BVLOS License in Australia Expanding Business Opportunity with Existing and New Clients

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) drone operating license granted by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) in Australia opening significant business opportunity to tender for contracts with existing and new clients
- Limited granting of licenses to industry operators to date which currently operate services on Visual Line of Site (VLOS) only
- Successful granting paves the way for DLT to apply more speedily and with greater certainty
  for further BVLOS license applications in the mining and agricultural sectors in which DLT
  already operates and brings existing experience in other countries including South Africa
- Granting of license comes after a significant application and approval process running almost 12 months, covering safety, stake holder engagement with all relevant landholders, extensive air and ground risk assessments, detailed operational procedures and pilot training
- Few licenses granted to date in Australia, particularly across large land area corridors covering multiple mine sites as received by DLT
- Significant business opportunity for DLT to deliver its solutions in Australia in an evolving sector
  with BVLOS solutions bringing significant speed and economic efficiency to the sector,
  currently using substantially more expensive manned aircraft solutions or are still restricted by
  VLOS operations

**9 May 2022** – Global drones-as-a-service provider, Delta Drone International Limited **(ASX: DLT)** is pleased to announce the granting of a Beyond Visual Line of Site (BVLOS) drone operating license granted in Australia by the CASA, opening significant business opportunity to tender for contracts with existing and new clients.

#### **BVLOS license**

DLT has received a BVLOS operating license for operation of remotely piloted aircraft beyond visual line of sight covering a land corridor (consisting of multiple points defining the operating area) in greater Kalgoorlie of Western Australia which encompasses a number of existing mine sites.

The license was granted under regulation 11.056 and paragraph 101.029(1) and 101.030(1)(a) of the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASR) 1988. The license is valid through to 31 July 2024.

The application process for BVLOS in Australia involves a comprehensive and lengthy process whereby CASA requires operators or companies to develop extensive documentation and operational procedures to safely and effectively manage all ground and air risks within the given BVLOS area. Only pilots with a very specific instrument rating (IREX) are then able to conduct these operations after thorough operations training.

**DLT CEO Christopher Clark said:** "The adoption of BVLOS capability and solutions in Australia is a game changer to many industries on the cusp of benefiting hugely, including in mining and agriculture, which has one of the highest drone penetration rates however operates almost wholly on VLOS only solutions.

However, despite being ready to benefit enormously from BVLOS services with the maturing of drone technology and hardware in recent years, drone solution operators remain significantly restricted by stringent licensing requirements of BVLOS by the CASA.

Our strategy and experience in operating BVLOS in other country environments, and now in Australia, puts DLT in pole position to capture opportunity with existing and new Australian clients who are ready to engage in our services, which until now they could not benefit from, and we can now include these services in our tender process."

# **BVLOS** experience

DLT has successfully operated BLVOS services in South Africa to the mining and agricultural sector since 2018 and holds licenses which cover the whole of South Africa. This experience played a pivotal role in demonstrating the relevant criteria of safety and compliance in the application process for the granting of its Australian BVLOS license.

# Market opportunity

While this initial approval area focuses on current customers of our Rocketmine subsidiary, in the south-west of Kalgoorlie Boulder town, DLT has already submitted further applications to increase its BVLOS scope far north of this initial successfully licensed corridor.

This secondary application encompasses not only our current mining customers, to make operations more efficient, but also new possible mining sites.

"Our ultimate goal with BVLOS is to slowly edge away at the Manned-Aerial Lidar market, which is worth approximately \$50 million annually, however the opportunity using BVLOS drones is for us to specifically address the up to 10 sq. kilometre segment. This distance is usually cost inefficient for large, manned aircraft operations which more optimally focus on distances beyond 10 sq. kilometres."

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Delta Drone International Limited.

## -ENDS-

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# **About Delta Drone International**

Delta Drone International is a multi-national drone-based data services, training and technology solutions provider for the mining, agricultural and engineering industries. It provides aerial surveying and mapping, security and surveillance, and blast monitoring and fragment analysis through a fully-outsourced service with AI and fast data turnaround that allows enterprise customers to focus on operations on the ground while Delta Drone International takes care of everything in the air.

www.dlti.com.au