

Comair acquires leadership development consultancy Metaco

Johannesburg, 21 August 2018; Comair has acquired the leadership development consultancy firm, Metaco Holdings (Pty) Ltd, as part of its diversification strategy, Comair CEO Erik Venter announced today.

Venter says the acquisition fits well with its training business that already encompasses courses for pilots, cabin crew, ground operations staff and travel and tourism. "Through our existing client base, we have seen the demand for leadership and team coaching, and Metaco fits this requirement".

"Comair has evolved from operating two airline brands into an aviation group, with operations in aviation training, catering, hospitality and tourism and airport lounges. We are now balancing the capital-intensive airline business with new business units that are more reliant on intellectual capital and have a different revenue cycle and cost base."

Venter notes that Comair has worked extensively with Metaco over the past two years.

Metaco's MD Barbara Walsh says "Over the past nine years our purposeful vision for Metaco has been the development of cohesive, strategic leadership teams, that connect effectively across their range of stakeholders and thrive in the ever-changing contexts of business today. By extension, successful companies assist South Africa to thrive. This is very important to us.

"Metaco's systemic focus and strong track record for delivering transformative results in private and public-sector organisations have been our success. We're excited at the significant opportunities that we are identifying as part of the Comair group. It will enable us to extend our vision and purpose as we expand our work locally and internationally, with both existing and prospective clients.

"As a true South African success story, Comair is well recognised for the quality of its leadership and its forward-thinking approach. It is an honour to become a part of this dynamic organisation."

Walsh adds that Metaco focuses on strategic development, organisational design and change management. Its client base includes boards, leadership teams and individuals across a range of industries, in the public and private sector. The company offers a range of coaching and training modules for individuals and groups, developed in line with international best practice.

About Comair Limited;

Comair Limited is a South African aviation and travel company, offering scheduled and non-scheduled airline services within South Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands, as its main business. The company operates under its low-fare airline

brand, **kulula.com**, as well as under the **British Airways** livery, as part of a license agreement.

In addition to scheduled and non-scheduled airline services, Comair also offers the following non-airline related services;

- A catering service, **Food Directions**, originally launched to cater to the airline brands, now also provides a range of health and other food products to retailers.
- Its award-winning domestic and international **SLOW** lounges have set the standards for airline hospitality in South Africa. It is expanding this offering, while its reputation as a lounge operator has resulted in management contracts from other companies.
- Investment in technology to improve operational efficiency and offer innovative products to travel agencies and consumers has seen it become the country's largest digital travel distribution network, covered under the **Comair Travel** brand.
- The **Comair Training Centre**, originally founded in early 2000 to train the airline's own flight and cabin crew has grown considerably and now provides operational training for pilots and crew from other domestic and international airlines and even overseas air forces. Comair acquired **EPT Aviation** Training in 2017 with the primary objective to enhance its already formidable proposition, increasing its capacity for external commercial training of cabin crew, passenger handling, and travel and tourism training. It holds benefits for not only Comair, but the many young South Africans who envisage a career in aviation.

Managed and owned by South Africans through its listing on the JSE, Comair has been operating successfully in this country since 1946. Comair is the only known airline to have achieved operating profits for 71 consecutive years, has a safety record which is internationally recognised and a level 3 B-BBEE recognition. Comair has independently been certified by the Top Employers Institute, as one of the Top Employers South Africa 2018.

For more information on Comair, visit www.comair.co.za

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