

# RBS Morgans 2013 Institutional Conference

Presentation – Blended Travel by Andrew Flannery (CFO) 9 October, 2013

### Killer theme: Travel agent to travel retailer



Flight Centre Limited is transitioning from a travel agent to a world class retailer of travel products to leisure and corporate customers

Being a world class retailer means we are the brand/business people identify with and go to

It is very different to being an agent, a middle man, a dealer for someone else's product

### Killer theme: Travel agent to travel retailer



FLT's killer theme is aligned to company's longer term strategic "foci" and built around seven mini-themes:

- 1. Brand and specialisation brands with clear CVPs that mean something and are relevant to customers
- 2. Unique product ours, not always someone else's
- 3. Experts, not agents
- 4. Redefining the shop a place where customers engage with the brand
- 5. Blended access the focus of today's presentation
- 6. Information as power
- 7. A sales and marketing machine

### Blended access: Creating a new travel category



- Unique leisure travel offering that OTAs and suppliers cannot replicate
- ☐ Similar to FLT's corporate travel model and refined for leisure business after studying and meeting high profile retailers from other sectors
- Draws on strengths of both the on and offline models
- Ensures FLT's brands are available to customers when and how they want
   online, offline, shop, email, chat, phone or SMS
- Will ultimately allow customer interaction in any channel at any time throughout the travel cycle (dream, plan, book, experience, share)
- Omni channel focus improvements taking place across all sales channels

### Blended access: Three key phases



- Phase 1
  - Taking away customers' "pain points" by blending pre and post booking phases – ability to enquire, pay and view itineraries online
- ☐ Phase 2
  - Making more products and services available online while expanding offerings across other sales channels
  - In place for Flight Centre brand in Australia but a W.I.P elsewhere
- Phase 3
  - Rolling out a fully integrated model

# Blended access: flightcentre.com.au milestones



KEY MILESTONES	STATUS	ELEMENTS
PHASE 1	$\checkmark$	Pre and post booking processes blended
		Customers able to enquire, pay and view itineraries online
		Content-rich itineraries delivered
PHASE 2	<b>√</b>	<ul> <li>More products and services available online</li> <li>International fares, global hotels, car hire, insurance</li> <li>Online access to human search engines - Consultant "Select" model delivered</li> <li>Perfect Match trialled, Chat set for 1H14 launch</li> </ul>
PHASE 3	WIP	<ul> <li>Work continues on fully integrated model</li> <li>Will ultimately allow customers to switch seamlessly between sales channels and devices at any stage</li> </ul>

### New initiatives: Redefining the shop



- Incorporating new features, new technology and 24/7 capability
- Focus on specialisation experts in each brand's specialty, not agents
- Digital innovations
- Department store-style product zones
- Store trading hours extended and round-the-clock sales teams set up in Sydney and Brisbane
- □ Growth in 24/7 capability meets customers' changing expectations of retailers circa 25% of enquiry in Australia now generated after 6pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian hyperstore (housing 60-70 consultants) opened Oct 1 in Brisbane's Queen Street Mall

## Redefining the shop: Queen Street hyperstore





### **New initiatives: Enhanced online functionality**

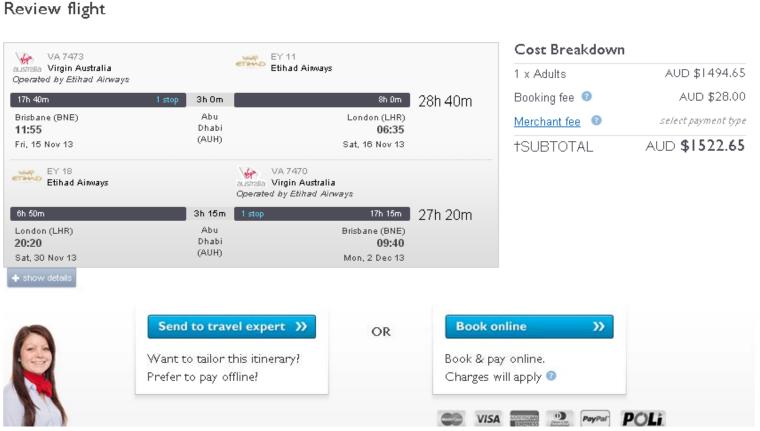


- More services and features online websites are FLT's largest shop-fronts
- International flights added to flightcentre.com.au product range now includes fares to 2700 destinations, global hotels, car hire and insurance
- □ Transactional website launched in South Africa during 1H14. Liberty (US) site also set for 1H launch
- Device responsive sites flightcentre.com.au automatically renders for iPad, iPhone and desktop
- "Evergreen" content delivered information, travel tips, blogs, social media
- Proactively using web to promote manufactured fares that can't be transacted online
- Enquiry routing to specialist consultants

### Blended access: On and offline options







### New initiatives: Customer engagement



- Aligned to "Experts, not agents" mini-theme
- Delivering the right product to the right person at the right time
- Customer and consultant profiling
- Consultant Select model in place on flightcentre.com.au allows online customers to select a consultant for advice and/or help
- Will evolve into Perfect Match pairing customers with consultants who have recent first-hand experience of the customer's chosen destination
- □ Perfect Match concept trialled in QLD during FY13 for London flight enquiries. Conversion was circa 7 times normal London conversion
- "Chat" now in place on flightcenter.com (US), studentflights.com.au and escapetravel.com.au and set for launch on flightcentre.com.au
- Chat conversion in USA is three times higher than general conversion

# And finally: An A, B, C of FAQs



A = Acquisitions

**B** = Business travel

**C** = Capital management

### **Acquisitions**



While FLT's primary focus is on organic growth, the company expects to complement this with strategic acquisitions from time to time

### **Possible targets**

- Vertical integration opportunities without taking on major capital assets
- Destination management companies
- Coach touring potential synergies with FLT's UK-based Back-Roads Touring business
- Hotel management arrangements

### **Business travel**



Now represents 30-35% of global turnover and a future growth opportunity

### **Overview**

- □ FLT is Australia's largest corporate travel manager and a top 5 or top 10 player in many other markets
- □ Five corporate brands with specific focuses FCm, Corporate Traveller, cievents, Campus Travel and Stage & Screen
- □ Corporate Traveller has SME focus targeting unmanaged accounts
- Expanding BDM network globally to win more accounts
- Strong footprint developing in the \$200billion-a-year USA corporate market − will be represented in 17 US cities by June 2014
- USA corporate now FLT's largest business outside Australia (by turnover)

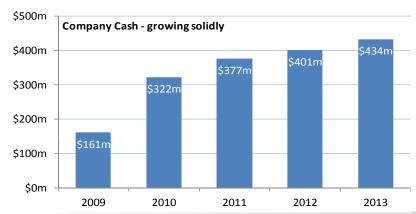
### **Capital management**



FLT continues to grow cash reserves and had more than \$400m in general funds (company cash) at 30 June, 2013

### **Overview**

- Internal aim is to preserve three months' operating cash (circa \$400m)
- **□** Funds will decrease during 1H14 after dividend and tax instalment payments
- Shift to monthly tax payments in Australia (Jan 2014) will also affect cash
- May also use cash to fund small acquisitions
- Board will consider returning surplus funds to shareholders if and when company cash significantly exceeds requirements
- Current preference is to increase normal dividend yields (pay-out ratios)



# **End of presentation**



Questions?