# Policy

# Policy for Dealing in Securities

Alliance Aviation Services Limited

ACN 153 361 525

Adopted by the board on 2 December 2011

#### 1 Introduction

The purpose of this Policy is to:

- explain the types of conduct in dealing in securities that are prohibited under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) (Corporations Act). Such prohibitions apply to all directors and employees of Alliance Aviation Services Limited (Company) and its related bodies corporate as defined in the Corporations Act (collectively the Group); and
- establish a best practice procedure for the buying and selling of securities that
  protects the Company and directors and employees against the misuse of
  unpublished information which could materially affect the value of securities.

The Company aims to achieve the highest possible standards of corporate conduct and governance. The Board of directors considers that compliance with this Policy is essential to ensure that the highest standards of conduct are being met by all directors and employees.

Any non-compliance with this Policy will be regarded as serious misconduct which may entitle the Company to take corrective disciplinary action.

Attachment 1 describes how the insider trading rules apply and contains definitions of the key terms used in this Policy.

# 2 Persons to whom this Policy applies

This Policy applies to:

- all directors and officers of the Group (including the Chief Executive Officer (CEO));
- all direct reports to the CEO (senior executives);
- all employees of the Group; (collectively, **Employees**); and
- closely related parties (as defined in the Corporations Act) of Employees.

In this Policy, the persons listed above will be collectively referred to as Relevant Persons.

Where this Policy requires a Relevant Person to do an act or thing (for example, obtaining clearance in accordance with clause 3.2(c)), the relevant Employee must do that act or thing in respect of their closely related parties.

# 3 Restrictions on dealing in securities

#### 3.1 No trading where in possession of inside information

A Relevant Person must not deal in the Group's securities where:

they are in possession of price sensitive or 'inside' information; or

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 the Company is in possession of price sensitive or 'inside' information and has notified Relevant Persons that they must not deal in securities (either for a specified period, or until the Company gives further notice).

Attachment 1 sets out further guidance as to what constitutes 'inside' or price sensitive information.

#### 3.2 Other prohibited dealings

#### (a) No Dealing outside trading windows

Relevant Persons **must not** deal in the Company's securities unless notified by the Company that dealing in the Company's securities is permitted.

For the avoidance of doubt, dealing in the Company's securities includes dealing in financial products issued or created over or in respect of the Company's securities.

In general the Company will notify Relevant Persons of the period in which dealing in securities will be permitted (a 'trading window'). The specific timeframe for a trading window may vary from year to year, but by way of example, a trading window may be comprised of:

- the 4 week period commencing on the next trading day after the announcement to ASX of half-yearly results;
- the 4 week period commencing on the next trading day after the announcement to ASX of the preliminary final statement or full year results;
- the 4 week period commencing on the next trading day after the holding of the Annual General Meeting; or
- a period that the Company has a current prospectus or other form of disclosure document on issue under which persons may subscribe for securities.

#### (b) **Notification of dealing**

Where a trading window is declared by the Company, Relevant Persons must notify the Company Secretary of any dealing in the Company's Securities during that trading window in accordance with this paragraph 3.2(b).

Where the Relevant Person is a director or senior executive of the Company, they must notify the Company Secretary in advance of any dealing in the Company's securities (including any dealing by one of their closely related parties)

Where a Relevant Person other than a director or senior executive (or their closely related parties) deals in Company securities, the relevant Employee must notify the Company Secretary of any such dealing within 2 business days of the relevant dealing occurring.

#### (c) Exceptional circumstances

If a Relevant Person needs to deal in securities outside a specified trading window due to exceptional circumstances, the Relevant Person may apply to:

- the Chair of the Board (if the Relevant Person is a director (other than the Chair of the Board), an officer or a senior executive, or one of their closely related parties);
- the Chair of the Audit Committee (if the Relevant Person is the Chair of the Board or one of his or her closely related parties); or
- the Company Secretary (in the case of other Relevant Persons),
   or their delegate (the approver) for a waiver from compliance with the provisions of paragraph 3.2(a).

Exceptional circumstances for these purposes includes severe financial hardship, compulsion by court order or any other circumstance that is deemed exceptional by the approver.

Relevant Persons seeking a waiver under this clause must apply in writing to the Chair of the Board, Chair of the Audit Committee, or Company Secretary (as relevant) setting out the circumstances of the proposed dealing (including an explanation as to the severe financial hardship or circumstances that are otherwise exceptional) and the reason the waiver is requested. A waiver will only be granted if the Relevant Person's application is accompanied by sufficient evidence (in the opinion of the approver) that the dealing of the relevant securities is the only reasonable course of action available in the circumstances.

If a waiver is granted, the Relevant Person will be notified in writing (which may include notification via email) and in each circumstance the duration of the waiver to deal in securities will be 2 business days.

Unless otherwise specified in the notice, any dealing permitted under this paragraph 3.2(c) must comply with the other sections of this Policy (to the extent applicable).

#### (d) No short-term dealing – buying and selling within 3 month period

Relevant Persons must not deal in the Company's securities on a short-term trading basis. Short-term trading includes buying **and** selling securities on market within a 3 month period, and entering into other short-term dealings (for example, forward contracts).

### 3.3 Prohibition on margin lending arrangements

All Relevant Persons are prohibited from using the Company's securities as collateral in any financial transaction, including margin loan arrangements.

# 3.4 Prohibition on hedging of company securities

All Relevant Persons are prohibited from entering into transactions in financial products that operate to limit the economic risk associated with holding Company securities.

#### 3.5 Exclusions

Paragraph 3.2 of this Policy does not apply to:

- (a) participation in an employee, executive or director equity plan operated by the Company (eg applying for an allocation of securities under an employee equity plan offer). However, where securities in the Company granted under an employee, executive or director equity plan cease to be held under the terms of that plan, any dealings in those securities must only occur in accordance with this Policy;
- (b) the following categories of passive trades:
  - acquisition of Company securities through a dividend reinvestment plan;
  - acquisition of Company securities through a share purchase plan available to all retail shareholders;
  - acquisition of Company securities through a rights issue; and
  - the disposal of Company securities through the acceptance of a takeover offer:
- (c) dealings that result in no effective change to the beneficial interest in the securities (for example, transfers of Company securities already held into a superannuation fund or trust of which the Relevant Person is a beneficiary); and

(d) trading under a pre-approved non-discretionary trading plan, where the Relevant Person did not enter into the plan or amend the plan during a period when trading in the Company's securities was prohibited, the plan does not permit the Relevant Person to exercise any influence or discretion in relation to trading under the plan and the plan cannot be cancelled during a period when trading in the Company's securities is prohibited, other than in exceptional circumstances.

However, such dealings are still subject to paragraph 3.1 of this Policy where applicable.

# 4 Securities in other companies

While in general employees are free to deal in securities in other listed companies, the prohibited conduct under the Corporations Act includes dealings not only in the Company's securities but also in those of other listed companies with which the Company may be dealing (including the Group's customers, contractors or business partners) where an employee possesses 'inside information' in relation to that other company.

If a Relevant Person is aware of information that is not generally available but which, if it were generally available, a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of a security, the Relevant Person should not deal in the securities of the companies that it affects.

Relevant Persons may come into possession of 'inside information' where they are directly involved in client relationship management or negotiating contracts. For example, where the Relevant Person is aware that the Group is about to sign a major agreement with another company, the Relevant Person should not buy securities in either the Company or the other company.

#### 5 Breach

Breaches of the insider trading laws have serious consequences for both the Relevant Person concerned and the Company.

Breaches of this Policy are regarded as serious and will be subject to appropriate sanctions.

Any person who is suspected of breaching this Policy may be suspended from attending the workplace on full pay pending the outcome of investigations into the alleged breach.

Any person who is proven to have breached this Policy could face disciplinary action (including forfeiture of securities and/or suspension or termination of employment).

#### 6 Who to contact

Any employee who has queries about this Policy should contact the Company Secretary.

# 1 How the insider trading rules apply

### 1.1 Summary of prohibited conduct

The Corporations Act prohibits 'insider trading'.

Under the Corporations Act, a person is prohibited from dealing in securities where:

- (a) the person possesses information which is not generally available to the public;
- (b) that information may have a material effect on the price of securities of the relevant entity; and
- (c) the person knows or ought reasonably to know that the information is not generally available and, if it were, it might have a material effect on the price of securities.

In addition, a person with inside information must not procure another person to deal in the Company's securities or communicate the information (directly or indirectly) to another person whom the person believes may deal (or procure someone else to deal) in the Company's securities.

The key concepts are discussed in more detail in paragraph 1.2 of this Attachment 1.

#### 1.2 Relevant terms

(a) Securities

The definition of securities in the Corporations Act is very broad.

Securities include:

- ordinary shares;
- preference shares;
- options or performance rights;
- debentures; and
- convertible notes.

For the purposes of this Policy, the term 'securities' also extends to financial products issued or created over or in respect of securities issued by the Company (for example, warrants and other derivative products), whether or not the financial products are created by the Company or by third parties.

(b) Dealing in securities

Dealing in securities is a broad concept and covers more than simply buying or selling securities. It extends to exercising options over securities and entering into agreements to buy or sell securities.

Under this Policy and the law, the prohibition on dealing means that Relevant Persons are not permitted to:

- buy or sell; or
- enter into an agreement to subscribe for, buy or sell securities,

where they possess information that is not generally available and which a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of those securities.

If a Relevant Person possesses price sensitive information that is not generally available, the Relevant Person is also prohibited from:

- procuring any other person to deal in those securities; or
- directly or indirectly communicating the information to another person whom the Relevant Person believes is likely to deal in, or procure another person to deal in, those securities.

Procuring means enticing, encouraging, persuading, causing or securing another person to do or not to do something. Procuring also includes inciting, inducing or encouraging an act or omission.

For example, a Relevant Person cannot ask or encourage anyone, including family members, friends, associates or others, to deal in securities when the Relevant Person possesses price sensitive information, and Relevant Persons should not communicate price sensitive information.

If a Relevant Person accidentally gives somebody 'inside information' when he or she should not have, the Relevant Person must immediately tell that person that it is 'inside information' and warn them against trading in the Company's securities, getting others to trade in the Company's securities, or communicating the information to others.

(c) Price sensitive or 'inside' information

Information is 'inside' or 'price sensitive' if it is not generally available, but which, if it were generally available, a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect (upwards or downwards) on the price or value of a security.

For the purposes of the insider trading provisions of the Corporations Act, information is defined broadly and includes matters of supposition and other matters which are insufficiently definite to warrant being made known to the public. It also includes matters relating to the intentions of a person.

(d) Information that is generally available

Information is 'generally available' if it:

- (1) consists of readily observable matter;
- (2) has been made known in a manner that would, or would be likely to, bring it to the attention of persons who commonly invest in any of the classes of securities issued by the Company and since it was made known, a reasonable period for it to be disseminated among those persons has elapsed. That is, information will be 'generally available' if it has been released to ASX or published in an annual report or prospectus or similar document and a reasonable period of time has elapsed after the information has been disseminated in one of these ways; or
- (3) consists of deductions, conclusions or inferences made or drawn from information referred to in paragraph 1.2(d)(1) of this Attachment 1 or information made known as mentioned in paragraph 1.2(d)(2) of this Attachment 1, or both.
- (e) Material effect on the price of securities

Under the Corporations Act, information is likely to have a material effect on the price or value of securities of a company if the information would, or would be likely to, influence persons who commonly invest in securities in deciding whether or not to subscribe for, buy or sell those securities.

It is not possible to list all information that may be material. However, the following types of information would be likely to be considered to have a material effect on the price of the Company's securities:

- sales figures;
- profit forecasts:
- unpublished announcements or knowledge of possible regulatory investigation;
- liquidity and cashflow;
- proposed changes in the Company's capital structure, including issues of securities, rights issues and buy backs;
- borrowings;
- major asset purchases and sales;
- impending mergers, acquisitions, reconstructions, takeovers, etc;
- significant litigation;
- significant changes in operations;
- significant changes in industry;
- new products/services and technology;
- proposed dividends or dividend policies;
- management restructuring or Board changes; and
- new contracts or customers.

## 2 Consequences of breach

Breaches of the insider trading laws have serious consequences for both the Relevant Person concerned and the Company.

A person who commits a breach of the insider trading provisions could be subject to criminal liability (substantial fines or imprisonment or both may be imposed) or civil liability (substantial fines may be imposed) under Australian law. A person who contravenes or is involved in a contravention of these provisions may also be liable to compensate any person who suffers loss or damage resulting from the conduct. In addition, an actual or suspected breach of the insider trading laws may also give rise to adverse public scrutiny and media comment.

It is therefore important that Relevant Persons adhere to this Policy at all times.

Any person who is suspected of breaching this Policy may be suspended from attending the workplace on full pay pending the outcome of investigations into the alleged breach.

Any person who is proven to have breached this Policy could face disciplinary action (including forfeiture of securities and/or suspension or termination of employment).