



OFFICE OF THE HON WARREN TRUSS MP
Minister for Transport and Regional Services
Deputy Leader of The Nationals

Reference: 06735-2006

Dr Gordon G Cable
President
Australasian Society of
Aerospace Medicine
PO Box 4022
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29 SEP 2006

Dear Dr Cable

Thank you for your letter of 30 June 2006 to the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon Warren Truss MP, regarding the security requirements for the flight crew compartment on aircraft. Minister Truss has asked me to respond on his behalf and I apologise for the delay in replying.

Aviation security in Australia is regulated under legislation administered by the Australian Government Department of Transport and Regional Services. The Australian Government keeps aviation security policy settings under constant review and part of this review may involve future amendments to the existing legislation.

Regulation 4.67 of the Aviation Transport Security Regulations 2005 (the Regulation) was introduced to increase the security of the cockpit and to reduce the likelihood of unlawful interference with the aircraft. The Regulation is designed to ensure that only authorised persons may enter the cockpit.

While the Government is sympathetic to the concerns you have raised, it is vital that all appropriate steps are taken to ensure aircraft operators have appropriate security settings in place. It is Government policy that only those people with a genuine safety, security or operational need have access to the flight deck. The terms of this regulation are under review at the moment to ensure that the classes of people who are permitted to enter the cockpit have genuine safety, security or operational reasons. It is expected that there will be a class of people who are medical practitioners.

Thank you for raising this matter with the Minister.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Paul Trotman', written over a white background.

Paul Trotman
Senior Adviser