



Tiger Airways still grounded in Australia

Last Updated: Mon, 4 Jul 2011 10:24:00 +1000

The Australian and International Pilots Association says it doubts that Tiger Airways will resume flights by next Saturday.

All the budget carrier's Australian flights have been suspended until at least the weekend, after the Civil Aviation Safety Authority grounded the low-cost carrier due to safety and maintenance concerns.

AIPA spokesman Richard Woodward says the airline now has to convince CASA that its practices are up to standard.

"They have got to convince the civil authority that they have got a plan to rectify the issues they've got," he said.

'Big task'

If the challenge was to have all pilots operating to one standard, "that's a big task. You couldn't do that in a week," the spokesman said.

The head of the Tiger Airways, Tony Davis, said he does not agree with all of CASA's allegations but the airline is cooperating with the investigation.

He said his airline has brought lower prices to the Australian market.

"I'm certainly very hopeful that our services in Australia will resume quickly, I think consumers want that, they want competition," he said.

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority says it may go to the federal court to apply for an extension to the ban.

Regrettable

Australia's Transport Minister Anthony Albanese says it's regrettable so many people have been affected by the ban, but safety is the first priority.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau dismissed suggestions that low-cost airlines also mean low safety standards.

The bureau's chief commissioner Martin Dolan said the bureau is already investigating two incidents involving Tiger.

"There is no reason why you can't achieve safe outcomes with a low-cost operation," he said.

"Indeed, there is a number of low cost operators around the world who are operating quite safely."

It is estimated that the grounding of the fleet is costing the airline \$AU1.5 million a week and is destroying its reputation with customers.

Recently its parent company, Singapore Airlines, chose to make an alliance with Virgin Australia, rather than with Tiger.

Tags: [australia](#) [business-economics-and-finance](#)

Print | Email SHARE: [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg](#) | [StumbleUpon](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Google](#)



PHOTO

30,000 passengers are expected to be affected by the grounding of Tiger Airways flights in Australia. [AAP]

VIDEO

[Tiger stays grounded](#)

Created: Mon, 04 Jul 2011 10:54:15 GMT+1000

TOP STORIES

[Police end Malaysian hostage drama](#)

[British newspaper shuts amid hacking scandal](#)

[Calls for Vanuatu passport scam inquiry](#)

[Thai company wants new Australian LNG plant](#)

[UN to rule on Cambodian-Thai temple conflict](#)

[Abbott questions impact of Indonesian cattle ban](#)

AUSTRALIA STORIES

[Tuna species headed for extinction](#)

[Abbott questions impact of Indonesian cattle ban](#)

[Thai company wants new Australian LNG plant](#)

[Aust Labor MPs concerned over resumption of live cattle trade](#)

[Australian airline down until August](#)