

Press Release

### **Kai Tak Cruise Terminal Celebrates a Year of Milestones in 2017**

(26 January 2018, Hong Kong) – The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, operated and managed by Worldwide Cruise Terminals (“WCT”) achieved a year of significant milestones in 2017, beginning in the first half with a busy four ship day on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017, and the arrival of KTCT’s one millionth passenger on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Accolades followed year-round, including on 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017, when WCT was nominated as an “Environment Initiative Award Finalist” in the 2017 Seatrade Cruise Awards. Further highlights ensued as WCT achieved a local record-setting highest throughput day of 13,327 revenue passengers on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017, and ended the year with 732,586 revenue passengers, which doubled from 2016, along with the number of ship calls.

#### **Four ships in one day on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Worldwide Cruise Terminals welcomed four world class cruise liners, with a collective gross tonnage of over 320,000, at two berths on the same day on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Two ships graced the Victoria harbour in the morning and two lit up Hong Kong’s world-renowned skyline overnight. The four ships, in order of arrival, were Genting Dream, Costa Victoria, MS Europa 2 and MSC Lirica.

Jeff Bent, managing director of WCT, said “We are delighted to welcome in a single day this broad diversity of lines, catering to local, short-haul and long-haul overseas markets, on brief and extended itineraries, for homeport and transit calls, at a variety of price points. It aptly demonstrates the cross-market appeal of Hong Kong for the entire spectrum of cruise segments, as well as the efficiency and flexibility of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal to handle multiple varied operations.”

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### **The arrival of one millionth cruise passenger on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

WCT celebrated the arrival of its one millionth cruise ship passenger on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017, during the inaugural call of the Majestic Princess. “The arrival of our one millionth cruise passenger today is validation of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal’s success since its inception in June 2013. Business has grown >90% year on year for four years, and we have received local and international recognition for numerous port management, green, and social responsibility initiatives. We look forward to receiving our second millionth guest in the near future.” said Bent.

### **Kai Tak Cruise Terminal named one of three finalists for the Environment Initiative Award from the Seatrade Cruise Awards 2017 on 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017**

WCT was named one of three finalists for the Environment Initiative Award from the Seatrade Cruise Awards 2017, the most respected award scheme for the cruise industry. It is the first Asian entity to have ever made it to the finals. The Environment Initiative Award is presented to an organization or individual that has made the most impact and advancement in environmental aspects of cruising.

WCT was nominated after a substantial reduction in carbon intensity, as well as implementing other key environmental initiatives relating to food waste, recycling, and air quality.

“The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal was already a BEAM Platinum-class building with modern appliances; there were no simple solutions to reduce carbon emissions. Reducing our per passenger carbon emissions by 53% purely through management initiatives required a concerted effort by the entire team. Entering the competition for the Seatrade Environment Initiative Award gave us a chance to highlight our achievements and contribute our experience to help set the bar higher for the industry.” Bent noted.

### **WCT's highest throughput day on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

WCT achieved a local record-setting highest throughput day of 13,327 revenue passengers on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017, when the terminal played host to two mega cruise ships simultaneously (Celebrity Millennium and Ovation of the Seas), breaking the last record-setting highest throughput day of 11,099 revenue passengers on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2015.

Jeff Bent remarked, "Our operations continue to mature and improve, and the team is now well capable of handling even our busiest throughput days. We are glad to see both our local source market and the visiting fly-cruise market delivering high passenger loads for our cruise line customers."

### **Hong Kong's first ever cruise ship christening on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Hong Kong's first cruise ship christening, for the World Dream, took place at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2017, with Hong Kong's Chief Executive in attendance and pomp and ceremony including a police bagpipe band and fireworks.

### **Doubling ship calls and passenger numbers in 2017 from 2016**

WCT doubled the number of ship calls in 2017 over 2016, with revenue passenger numbers at Kai Tak also doubling to reach a high of 732,586, coming from roughly equal proportions of local, short-haul, and long-haul visitors. The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal now handles the vast majority of cruise passengers in Hong Kong. Jeff Bent said, "The number of revenue passengers that passed through Kai Tak Cruise Terminal greatly exceeded our expectations. 2017 was also an enormous year for

the Hong Kong source market, as the number of locals cruising out of Hong Kong more than doubled over 2016 figures to exceed 300,000, making it one of Asia's largest source markets."

### **Local Environmental and CSR Awards**

WCT received numerous local awards for environmental stewardship and corporate social responsibility in 2017. Awards received, starting from the most recent include: The 8<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Logo Award (second year in a row), HSBC Living Business' Green Achievement Award (second year in a row), Indoor Air Quality Certificate (Excellent Class), Good MPF Employer Award, Wastewi\$e Certificate, Indoor Air Quality Award, Bank of China Corporate Environmental Leadership Award (ECO-Partner Award), WasteCheck Charter Promotion Partner Award, Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence Award, FoodEver WasteNever Commitment Recognition Award (Platinum Class), Caring Company Award (consecutive years awarded: 2015-2017), Social Capital Builder Award, and Hong Kong Green Organisation Award.

Jeff Bent stated in recognition of the achieved awards, "Being environmentally responsible and being active in our community are top priorities, and we will continue to invest time and effort into building social capital."

### **More Outstanding Events**

The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal continued to serve as the venue for many captivating public and private events in 2017, including those held by fashion and luxury goods brands, public exhibitions, charity events, product launches, corporate incentive events, and Hong Kong's first-ever cruise ship christening. The terminal regularly

hosts over twenty weddings and banquets per month at onsite F&B outlets and green spaces.

## **2018 Outlook**

2018 promises to be another bright year ahead with the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, and high-speed rail service to mainland China. The former will make Macao and Guangdong more accessible for shore excursions, and bring most western Pearl River Delta source markets within a two-hour drive. The latter will bring 270 million people within a 4-hour train ride of Hong Kong, vastly enlarging Hong Kong's catchment area and addressable source market.

Bent projected that 2018 will be a year in which itineraries out of Hong Kong further expand and diversify, as Japan, Korea, Vietnam and the Philippines now all offer visa free or visa on arrival service to mainland Chinese cruise passengers.

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## About Worldwide Cruise Terminals

Worldwide Cruise Terminals (or “WCT”) is a joint venture majority owned by Worldwide Flight Services (“WFS”). It is dedicated to the management and operation of Hong Kong’s new Kai Tak Cruise Terminal (“KTCT”) and development of Hong Kong as a cruise port. It is ISO 9001 certified, and has received multiple port management awards including CCYIA’s Best Port Management award in 2015 and Port of the Year finalist by Seatrade in 2016. On the green and CSR front, it was named one of three finalists for the Environment Initiative Award from the Seatrade Cruise Awards 2017, received the 7<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Young Power and the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Logo Award, HKSAR’s Social Capital Builder Award, HSBC’s Green Achievement Award in 2016 and 2017, Bank of China’s Environmental Leadership ECO-Partner Award in 2017, Hong Kong’s Green Organisation Award in 2017 and 2018, as well as Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department’s Indoor Air Quality (Excellent Class) Certificate from 2015-2018.

Excellent rail and air connectivity to mainland China and other major source markets, visa-free access for most nationalities, exciting nearby ports of call, a tropical climate and variety of urban and rural, modern and historical attractions, make the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal an ideal location for both homeporting and transit ship calls.

The state-of-the art cruise terminal is set against the backdrop of Victoria Harbour and built on the former runway of the fabled Kai Tak airport. Both functional and beautiful, the iconic terminal was designed by the renowned Foster + Partners and has been described by Departures magazine as “The Rolls-Royce of Cruise Terminals.” It has been awarded a platinum BEAM Plus rating by the Hong Kong Green Building

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Council. It features spacious passenger and service areas and a 23,000 square meter rooftop garden. With jaw-dropping views of Victoria Harbour and an impressive array of amenities, the terminal meets the demands of a new generation of super cruise liners and has the capacity to simultaneously handle two of the world's largest cruise ships. Its open design and spacious interior is highly flexible and offers an excellent venue for performances and events.

The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal regularly hosts over 20 events per month, and has also served as the venue for many star-studded and public and private functions, including Audemars Piguet events, the Nike Women's 10k, Calvin Klein's Justin Bieber concert, an Omega and Orbis event featuring Cindy Crawford, Mercedes Benz launches, Audi launches, the Virtuoso Symposium, Slide the City, Subaru Levorg stunt car show, Tesla events, 60 Years of Porsche event, a Mary Kay fashion show, and more. It has featured in a number of local and international films, TV programs, and commercials.

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