



# Media Release 19/10/2011

---

## CAREFLIGHT LAUNCHES PARTNERSHIP WITH NEW HOPE COAL

RACQ CareFlight are pleased to officially announce the signing of a significant sponsorship agreement with New Hope Coal at an event today, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

CareFlight and New Hope Coal representatives came together to celebrate the sponsorship at New Acland Mine to mark the beginning of a long and beneficial partnership.

CareFlight Group Queensland CEO Ashley van de Velde said the sponsorship was a significant contribution to the helicopter rescue service.

“We are so grateful that New Hope Coal chose to support CareFlight through this sponsorship agreement,” he said.

“New Hope Coal came on board as a major supporter of the CareFlight service as an acknowledgement of our emergency response work during the January floods in the south west region.”

“As the funding from the partnership is going to be used for CareFlight’s Toowoomba-based operations, the reason behind the partnership is an extremely fitting one.”

“As CareFlight relies largely on sponsorships and community donations to function, the New Hope Coal association is a vital one to the ongoing provision of our services to the communities of Southern Queensland.”

“We are very proud to be associated with such a prolific and generous organisation and are privileged to have them support our life-saving organisation,” he said.

New Hope Corporation Limited Chief Operating Officer Bruce Denney agrees.

“When you consider that CareFlight has helped well over 15,000 sick and injured patients over the years, you can start to see why the service is so important to the entire southern Queensland region,” he said.

“New Hope is very proud to be able to do its bit to support CareFlight who are always ready to assist all communities throughout this region.

“And it’s these communities that provide almost half of the not-for-profit service’s funding each year, so we are also proud to be able to chip in and show our support for these communities as well,” he said.

**ENDS**

*Every year RACQ CareFlight's iconic blue and yellow choppers help hundreds of sick and injured patients. After nearly three decades, RACQ CareFlight's biggest supporters are still the communities of southern QLD which contribute almost half of the service's funding.*

**Media Contact – Sophie Lawson 0423 563 862**



Above: New Hope's Bruce Denney (second from right) and CareFlight's Peter Young launch the one-year sponsorship deal with the chopper crew.

Below: New Acland mine's emergency response team and CareFlight conduct an emergency exercise.

