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**AUSTRALIAN
INTERNATIONAL
AIRSHOW**
4-6 MARCH
GEELONG VICTORIA **2011**

AUSTRALIA'S OWN 'TOP GUN' TO FLY AT AVALON 2011

Organisers of the 2011 Australian International Airshow have announced the first of the star studded aviation line-up to thrill audiences at Avalon Airport next March.

Former Red Bull Air Race Pilot and Australia's own 'Top Gun' Matt Hall will be among the world's top pilots to perform at Avalon 2011.

Hall, a former Royal Australian Air Force F/A-18 fighter pilot, is one of Australia's most accomplished pilots.

The 39 year old has taken on the world's best pilots in the Red Bull Air Race World Championships and will display his high energy aerobatic routine before an expected record crowd at Avalon.

Hall says he's looking forward to performing at Avalon 2011 to help mark the 90th anniversary of the Royal Australian Air Force.

"The Australian International Airshow at Avalon is one of the most renowned air shows in the world and I am honoured to be able to be part of it," Hall says. "With record crowds expected it gives me a great opportunity to be able to put on a display for lots and lots of people who might not have had the chance to see my aircraft in action."

Airshow CEO Ian Honnery says he's delighted Hall will be part of the spectacular line-up at Avalon 2011.

"Matt Hall is one of the country's most dynamic young pilots and audiences can expect plenty of excitement from his performances," Mr Honnery says.

Hall is also hoping his appearance at the 2011 Australian International Airshow will help inspire the next generation of Australian pilots.

"One of the things I am trying to do with Matt Hall Racing is to promote the aviation industry in Australia and especially try to motivate young people who may be interested in a career as a pilot."

Hall will be guest speaker at a major careers and skills forum being held at the event which aims to encourage students to take up a career in aviation and aerospace.

The 2011 Australian International Airshow will be held from March 4 – 6 at Avalon Airport near Geelong in Victoria.

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The Australian International Airshow 2011 is presented and conducted by Aviation Development Australia Limited (ABN 54 114 966 175) and the 2011 Australian International Aerospace & Defence Exposition is presented and conducted by Aerospace Australia Limited (ABN 63 091 147 787), in the interest of promoting the development of aviation and Australian industrial, manufacturing and information-communications technology resources with respect to aviation, aerospace and defence.