

Source: ABC News Online, 13 Nov 07.

Rex boss retiring

The managing director of the airline Regional Express (Rex) has announced his resignation after four years with the company.

Geoff Breust has paid tribute to the hard work of his staff and says the company still has a great future in regional Australia.

Chief of staff, Jim Davis, will step into the top role on an interim basis when Mr Breust retires next month.

The company has had problems in recent months, with a chronic shortage of pilots causing flight cancellations.

Mr Breust says his resignation is not linked with those problems.

He says Australia's skills shortage is across many areas and each sector needs to look at ways of attracting more people.

"Australia as a nation needs to ensure that our training capability for our future is in the right area. Air transportation is as vital as any land transportation, it's as vital as other activities in electronic communication," he said.

"So it's a very important part of our economy and our social structure as well."