



MEDIA RELEASE

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Thredbo Launches Australia's Only Alpine Gondola *Plus Other Developments at Thredbo*

THREDBO RESORT, NSW – 18 June 2020

Thredbo Resort, operated by EVENT Hospitality and Entertainment Ltd, has today announced the completion of several developments. This includes the launch of the Merritts Gondola, the only alpine gondola in Australia. In addition, EVENT has also invested in a new car park, improvements to Dream Run including snowmaking, an expanded grooming fleet, and has continued to introduce new sustainability measures all of which contribute to delivering an enhanced experience for visitors to Thredbo.

Thredbo is Australia's premier alpine resort and has been voted Australia's Best Ski Resort in the World Ski Awards for three consecutive years. The Gondola investment will further enhance this position, replacing the Merritts double chairlift and quadrupling capacity. The cabin-style lift is similar to those found in Europe and North America and represents the culmination of two years of planning and development, delivering a new crucial inter-mountain link.

Stuart Diver, General Manager of Thredbo Resort today said: "The investment being made in Thredbo is really exciting to see, and I have no doubt Thredbo customers will agree. The launch of the Gondola is a huge event for Thredbo and the entire community who have worked so hard to make this happen. It is a remarkable engineering achievement thanks to the tenacity and depth of knowledge and expertise at Doppelmayr, the world's leading manufacturer of ski lifts. The completion of this phase of

our development plan will enhance the customer experience and continue to ensure we remain Australia's premier resort.

"Snow lovers will be thrilled with easier access to the Cruiser area and the Friday Flat beginners' area, and with the improvements we have made to the popular Dream Run, including a new automated snowmaking system.

"We care deeply about our responsibility of operating in a unique natural environment, which is why being Australia's first ski resort to be powered exclusively by clean, renewable energy was also an important milestone."

Shaun Turner, General Manager of Doppelmayr Australia said, "Doppelmayr is proud to be delivering Merritts Gondola to Thredbo on time for the 2020 winter snow season. Merritts is the first eight-passenger gondola in the Australian snowfields and offers world leading European quality, safety and green technology.

"Thredbo's new gondola is driven by a massive slow turning motor which is super quiet and more efficient than a conventional gondola. We would like to commend Thredbo for demonstrating their commitment to sustainability and the environment with the uptake of this innovative technology."

The investment in the Merritts Gondola provides:

- Easier access for Village guests of all abilities to the Friday Flat and Cruiser area.
- Fast turnaround access from the Gondola Mid-Station to the Top-Station for intermediate and advanced ski and snowboarders accessing the popular Dream Run and its surrounding tree runs.
- Easier access for foot and scenic passengers to the Merritts Mountain House.
- Reduced pressure on the Kosciuszko Express and Gunbarrel Express chairlifts.

Jane Hastings, Chief Executive Officer of EVENT Hospitality & Entertainment said: "As a Group, a key strategic priority is to maximise our assets to enable growth and deliver the best possible customer experiences. Our Thredbo plan is centred on enhancing the skier, hiker and mountain biker experience with targeted investment on mountain that respects the environment we are operating in. Our recent investments in the Merritts Gondola, snowmaking on Dream Run, an expanded snow grooming fleet and increased carparks will enable more customers to enjoy an even better Thredbo experience. I am incredibly proud of our team at Thredbo for their absolute commitment in overcoming the impact of the bushfires, adjusting our operating model for COVID-19 restrictions, and delivering this phase of our strategic plan."

The winter stage is set with additional snowmaking, car park expansions and continued commitment from Thredbo Resort to power all its major resort operations with 100% renewable energy:

Snowmaking on 'Dream Run'. This aptly named popular intermediate to advanced run will have its own automated snowmaking system. This will become a link run allowing better access to Friday Flat and the Mid-Station of the new Merritts Gondola.

Additional car parking at Friday Flat with 75 additional spaces available.

Pistenbully snow groomer. A brand new Pistenbully PB600 Polar Free Grooming Cat has been added to Thredbo's extensive fleet of snow groomers. The Euro V compliant motor sees increased power

over its predecessor, while significantly reducing particulate and nitrogen emission. It's designed to cover large areas quickly and efficiently whilst delivering the best quality groomed runs for our guests.

SNOWsat snow depth technology. Thredbo has invested in new SNOWsat technology to more accurately measure snow depth across the resort. Developed by the snow groomer machine manufacturer Kassbohrer, the technology involves sensors being placed on the grooming machines that relay snow depth measurements via satellite to our server and provides a detailed snow depth map. The snow depth map will deliver efficiencies in both snow grooming and snow making to further enhance the skiing and snowboarding experience.

Renamed trail 'Frank's Face'. One of Thredbo's iconic trails is being renamed after the incredible Frank Prihoda, Australia's oldest Olympian and Thredbo local who turns 99 on 8 July 2020. The blue (intermediate) trail runs from the top of Karel's T-bar from Australia's highest lifted point of 2037 metres to Basin T-bar.

Environmental initiatives. Together with Red Energy and Snowy Hydro, Thredbo continues to lead the industry as Australia's first snow resort to have all major resort operations powered by 100% renewable energy. New environmental initiatives for 2020 include sugarcane pulp food packaging (certified compostable and sustainable) and a closed loop organics recycling machine, doubling Thredbo's food waste recycling capacity. In addition, Thredbo has undertaken an extensive rehabilitation native planting project and used repurposed materials in the construction of the new Friday Flat car park retaining walls.

The official Opening of the Merritts Gondola will take place in Thredbo on Saturday 20 June 2020 with key representatives from EVENT, Government tourism and industry organisations invited to the limited capacity event, in keeping with the current COVID-19 restrictions on gathering sizes.

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Image Links: Please visit the dedicated Media Portal for the Gondola at www.thredbo.com.au/gondolalaunch
COVID-19 Best Practice Updates please [click here](#)

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ABOUT THREDBO

Thredbo is Australia's premier alpine resort. Voted Australia's Best Ski Resort in the World Ski Awards for three consecutive years, Thredbo boasts some of the best alpine terrain in the country and plays host to close to around 750,000 visitors each year. Located at the heart of the Australian Alps and nestled in the foothills of Australia's highest mountain Mt Kosciuszko, Thredbo is Australia's highest adventure destination in both summer and winter.

In winter, Thredbo offers Australia's longest snow runs and a vertical drop close to double that of any other Australian resort with a gorgeous European-style village. In summer, Thredbo has Australia's largest network of gravity mountain bike trails, as well as some of the best hiking trails in the country including the iconic Mt Kosciuszko walk.

ABOUT EVENT HOSPITALITY AND ENTERTAINMENT

Event Hospitality & Entertainment Limited (EVENT) is a leading entertainment, hospitality and leisure company. Founded in 1910 and headquartered in Sydney, EVENT is at the forefront of the experience economy and delivers over 40 million customer experiences annually.

EVENT operate Australia's much-loved ski resort, Thredbo Alpine Resort. EVENT also own the largest cinema circuits in Australia, New Zealand and Germany under the brands Event Cinemas, Birch Carroll and Coyle, CineStar, Greater Union and Moonlight Cinema and one of Australia's oldest theatres, the State Theatre. EVENT also own and operate more than 60 hotels including Rydges Hotels and Resorts, QT Hotels and Resorts and Atura Hotels. EVENT also owns a substantial property portfolio.

EVENT is committed to protecting and giving back to the communities in which it operates through a focus on sustainability, fundraising and diversity.

EVENT listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) and trades under the ASX code of EVT.