

25 April 2003

## **Press Release**

The Commission for Aviation Regulation (CAR) has today, 25 April, confirmed that Sunworth Ltd, trading as Clane Travel of Main Street, Clane, Co Kildare, has advised that it has ceased trading as a Travel Agent.

Sunworth Ltd held a Travel Agent's licence from the Commission for Aviation Regulation. The licence has now been revoked and the bond, held in connection with this licence, is being called down and administered by the Commission for Aviation Regulation.

The Bond will enable customers with current overseas travel contracts to obtain a refund of money paid to Sunworth Ltd, trading as Clane Travel. Claim forms for refunds are available from the Commission for Aviation Regulation on the following numbers between 10am and 1pm and 2.30 pm to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Telephone: 01 6346844/01 6346841/01 6346840.

All refunds will be made in accordance with the Transport (Tour Operators and Travel Agents) Act 1982.

Ends

*Further information from Fintan Deere, Head of Travel Trade Licensing, The Commission for Aviation Regulation Tel 01 6611700, Mobile 0872532881, email <u>fintandeere@aviationreg.ie</u>* 

*Issued on behalf of the Commission for Aviation Regulation by Whelan Communications. Contact Suzanne Mc Cormack, Tel 01 6807111, Mobile 086 8573927 email <u>suzanne@zelos.ie</u>* 

## **Notes to Editor**

The Commission for Aviation Regulation has responsibility for issuing licences which are supported by bonds amounting to 4% of a travel agent's turnover. Tour operators and travel agents are obliged to enter into a bond before the Commission grants a licence. In the event of a failure of a travel agent, the Commission is responsible for administering the bond. This work usually consists of assessing the eligibility of individual claims from customers of the firm, making the appropriate refunds, and where necessary, making arrangements for the repatriation of customers who are abroad.

The maximum penalty for trading without a licence is  $\in$ 126,973 and/or up to five years imprisonment.