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Issue 01

# SELETAR *INSIGHT*

Newsletter



Seletar Airport Networking Forum  
Interview with GM of Jet Aviation

**SELETAR**  
AIRPORT

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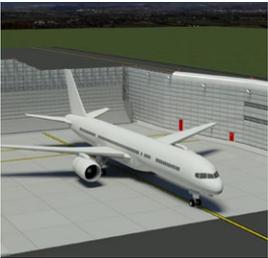
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### UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

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## FOREWORD

I am pleased to present to you the inaugural issue of Seletar Insight, our newsletter which aims to keep all our partners and members of the Seletar Airport community updated on the latest developments and events at Seletar. Through this new communication channel, we hope to further strengthen the rapport with our airport partners and create better understanding and awareness of the happenings here at Seletar.

Seletar Airport and Seletar Aerospace Park (SAP) are currently undergoing several key infrastructure developments, which are transforming our landscape. You would have noticed the roadway modifications and brand-new facilities at Seletar, as well as the new operators who have come to join our SAP community. The Seletar team is very excited about these developments, as they would improve the Seletar Airport product and help drive business activities to the benefit of the SAP community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Seletar partners and users for your patience and support during this period while we upgrade Seletar Airport and SAP.

We hope you enjoy the read and we look forward to your contributions to make future editions even more insightful and interesting.



**LIM CHING KIAT**

General Manager, Seletar Airport

## SELETAR AIRPORT NETWORKING FORUM

CAG organised the inaugural Seletar Airport Networking Forum on 21 February 2013 at the Seletar Country Club. Held in conjunction with the Lunar New Year celebration, this new initiative by CAG aimed to strengthen our engagement with Seletar users and stakeholders, and provide a platform for networking and interaction. The event drew good response, with more than 50 guests from 20 companies and organisations participating. In his welcome speech, Mr Lim Ching Kiat, General Manager, Seletar Airport highlighted some key infrastructural improvements to the Airport, including completion of the runway extension works, commissioning of the new control tower and fire station, as well as increase in taxiways and aircraft parking stands. He took the opportunity to thank the stakeholders for their support and understanding throughout the airport upgrading works, and emphasised the importance of building a strong partnership between CAG and the airport users, to jointly enhance service levels at Seletar Airport.

Mr Khoh Su Lim, Senior Manager (Seletar Business Development), CAG, was the first speaker at the event, and he shared with the Seletar community various facets of improvements and changes taking place at Seletar Airport. Besides the more prominent aspects relating to infrastructure development and construction works, he also touched on more “behind the scene” operational improvements relating to security, apron safety operations, and airport emergency services. Mr Khoh cited ongoing efforts by CAG to engage the airport users, and reiterated the importance of fostering strong partnerships with key stakeholder, to meet the challenges ahead, with growing demand for limited airport resources.

The second speaker at the Forum was Economic Development Board’s Executive Director for Transport Engineering, Mr Lim Kok Kiang. In his



presentation, Mr Lim shared on the positive outlook of the Singapore aerospace industry, recording a remarkable output of \$8.7 billion in 2012. This translated into with a compound annual growth rate of more than 10% over the past 20 years. Singapore has become a MRO leader in Asia Pacific and the industry is constantly working to attract quality investments. In the future we can expect more as new capabilities are built through research and productivity, innovation and infrastructure are enhanced.

The second segment of the Forum was the quintessential and much-awaited “Lao Yu Sheng”, symbolising abundance, prosperity and vigour for the new year. With bold gusto a la Seletar-style, the guests went “hands-on” in concocting the “Yu Sheng” preparation and assembly of various auspicious ingredients, with a grand finale in tossing everything together in a traditional “lo hei” cheer!

During the buffet lunch, guests took the opportunity to interact and network with one another, in a relaxed and informal setting. Many were old acquaintances, and took the chance to catch up on the latest business developments and updates in the SAP. Participants gave positive reviews to this inaugural Forum, and cited this as an excellent platform for the airport community to be updated on latest airport and SAP developments, as well as to network and exchange ideas. Encouraged by the good feedback, CAG will organising this Forum as a regular annual event, with the next session in early 2014. We look forward to a more interesting event, with a stronger turnout next year!



## BREITLING JET TEAM IN SELETAR

From 4 to 11 March, Seletar Airport played host to the renowned Breitling Jet Team, one of the world's foremost professional civilian aerial aerobatics performance team, as it made its appearance in Singapore as part of the team's first-ever five-leg Southeast Asia tour.

In the lead-up to Breitling Jet Team's arrival, the CAG Airport Operations team worked closely with CAAS Air Traffic Services, the RSAF, Singapore Flying Club, ground handlers and security services to coordinate ground operation procedures and safety assessments to ensure smooth operations at Seletar Airport for the event proper.

The team arrived in Seletar Airport just after lunch on 4 March and was warmly greeted by representatives from the organisers with flower garlands. The jets were accompanied by a twin turboprop Metro Liner which ferried their support crew and liaison manager.

With the support of the Seletar Airport community, the Breitling Jet Team successfully carried out a total of 3 flights during their one-week stopover. For their maiden flight at Seletar, the team brought several VIPs for an exhilarating ride on board the high performance jets. The second flight was an aerial photo shoot with Singapore's prominent skyline as

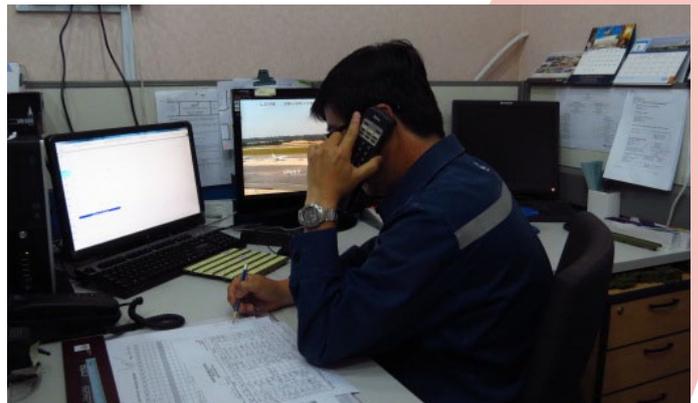
a back drop. The last flight on 10 March was the highly anticipated aerobatic display performance held along the coastline off Sentosa's Siloso Beach. The showpiece of the entire event, the Breitling Jet Team wowed spectators with a breath-taking display of skills and technique.

We applaud the Breitling Jet Team for a job well done, and for giving all aviation enthusiasts a true visual treat!

## BAY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Seletar Airport Operations had acquired the use of a Bay Management System (BMS) to regularise the daily aircraft parking stand allocation. BMS is one of the many systems which is coming online at Seletar Airport, as the airport infrastructure continues to be modernised to meet the growing air traffic in Seletar. By automating the allocation process, the BMS would be able to maintain consistent allocation rules to assign the various types of aircraft, and at the same time ensure safety parameters are adhered to as the airport's activities grow in complexity. Additionally, the BMS will provide better clarity on all aircraft ground movements within the airport, which would increase operational efficiency and utilization.

The BMS is now in its implementation phase where both the BMS and manual allocation are done in tandem till the end of the 1st half of 2013. The BMS is expected to run independently by June 2013 and with the dependence of real-time information from other Seletar Airport operators, the system is planned and developed with the capability to integrate with other systems in the near future.





## AIRPORT UPGRADING

Since the commencement of airport upgrading works in end-2008, Seletar Airport has completed a number of key project milestones. For instance, the runway has been extended by some 250m to its current length of 1.84km, operational since September 2011. This allows the airport to support larger jet operations, as well as heavier take-off loads. Another important infrastructure development milestone was the completion and commissioning of the new control tower and fire station in early 2012. Located at the new premises at East Apron, the new control tower facility has enhanced the airport's capability for the provision of air traffic services. The new fire station, also located within the same facility, now has with a clearer surveillance view of the runway and aircraft movement areas, thereby improving our Airport Emergency Service's (AES) capability to respond swiftly to emergency situations.

Following the completion of these major works, CAG is focusing on the development of the East Apron airside area. New parking bays are progressively being completed, and operationalised at the East (South) Apron. Another exciting development in the pipeline is Singapore's first Ground Run-up Enclosure (GRE) to be located at East (North) Apron. This new facility will support the requirements of our SAP Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) companies for the conduct of aircraft engine run-ups, while mitigating the noise problem caused to surrounding SAP tenants as a result of such activities. From a technical perspective, the CAG team has taken into careful consideration both the acoustic and aerodynamic factors in the implementation of the GRE. The new GRE will be approximately 11m tall, enclosed on all three sides, and equipped with a jet blast deflector to withstand blast velocities up to that of B777-300ER conservatively, or a wind speed of up to 145km/h. We look forward to the completion of the new GRE by end 2014.

## SINGAPORE'S AEROSPACE INDUSTRY TAKES FLIGHT

Singapore's aerospace industry has seen an exciting start to 2013. Despite global uncertainties, the growing appetite for air travel in Asia Pacific has created countless opportunities in the region for aerospace and aviation companies.

Singapore has been diligently enhancing our business environment to remain the choice location where companies grow their Asia Pacific businesses. The SAP was conceptualised to be the industry hotspot bringing together aerospace players to create business synergies. It has seen much success since launch. In 2012 alone, eight MNCs<sup>1</sup> have opened new facilities in the SAP.

Soon, we will also welcome Pratt & Whitney into the SAP family. In February 2012, Pratt & Whitney began construction of a new MRO facility in SAP. Barely a year on, Pratt & Whitney announced that it will establish a new manufacturing facility, right next to its MRO facility. This \$135 million investment is Pratt & Whitney's first manufacturing facility outside of the US to produce proprietary hybrid fan blades for the company's PurePower<sup>®2</sup> engines.

This fast-growing industry, and its myriad of activities provides for various career aspirations from manufacturing and design to marketing. We see that SAP will become an important destination for tomorrow's talent to forge their careers, be it with home-grown champions like ST Aerospace, or strong multinationals.

<sup>1</sup> Including Rolls-Royce, Bell Helicopter, Cessna Aircraft, Fokker Services Asia, and Hawker Pacific

<sup>2</sup> The GTF engine has been selected to fly on many new generation single-aisle platforms; including the Airbus A320neo and the Bombardier CSeries. This is a powerful example of the growing strength of our aerospace industry, both in MRO and in the production of advanced components.



## JET AVIATION, AIMING HIGH

**An exclusive interview with Mr Gary Dolski, Vice President and General Manager, Jet Aviation Singapore**

### **1. What was/were the reason(s) for choosing Singapore when Jet Aviation decided to set up your Fixed Based Operations (FBO) and MRO facilities in Asia in the 1990s?**

Although the South East Asian region was not a mature market for Business and General Aviation (BA/GA) back then, Jet Aviation anticipated that exponential growth in this region would occur in the decades to follow. Singapore was considered one of the easiest countries to do business in for reasons like its central location within the region, English as the common base language and a ruling government that is supportive in encouraging foreign companies to set up their businesses here. Seletar Airport is in close proximity to the core financial and downtown district, and is becoming a BA/GA centric airport with a strong focus on synergistic growth of complementary businesses. We are extremely pleased in having selected Singapore as the location to anchor and grow our South East Asian operations, where we have seen solid growth over the years.

### **2. Early this year, Jet Aviation announced the construction of a new hangar in SAP which is set to be operational by 2014. What are some of the key development plans for Jet Aviation in Singapore over the next five years and beyond?**

We are looking much further such as 10-20 years to justify an investment of this magnitude in our hangar extension project. Our goal is to build and grow a sustainable business that will have a very strong focus on employing and developing local Singapore talent. Currently, there is a definite need to complement local talent with outside help, but we are steadily working towards growing our own local talent pool of resources. We are in the advanced stage of identifying local aviation institutions or partners to develop the specific talent that we will need. The key is to be able to manage the mix of local and foreign labour to optimise our performance and productivity and to manage our costs.



### **3. What are your views on the infrastructure developments at Seletar Airport? What areas would you like to see improve?**

Many have been quick to note that more parking bays are being built in the East Apron. The recent runway extension and upcoming Instrument Landing System (ILS) installation in 2014 will definitely help to drive the BA/GA traffic to Seletar. Both EDB and JTC have been instrumental and successful in bringing in various new aerospace tenants into SAP. There is still much to be done however, such as improving the public transport system and making a greater selection of food and beverage outlets available to those working in the SAP in addition to suitable short-term lodging. It is imperative to have a premium Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) channel for business travellers. We can also start focusing on promoting dialogue between the various stakeholders in the SAP through additional open forums and the establishment of advisory boards consisting of commercial entities operating out of SAP, end-user customers and the relevant government entities.

### **4. Having moved to Singapore from North America, did you face any challenges/difficulties initially while you were trying to settle down in the new environment?**

There are always challenges relating to a move of this magnitude. They are often dependent upon the age of the children. My family is still adjusting to the life here. We enjoy the outdoors such as cycling and running along East Coast Parkway and hiking at MacRitchie Reservoir. This is our first posting in South East Asia and we are taking full advantage of exploring not only Singapore, but the surrounding countries as well.