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Singapore is first in Asia to build New Terminal for Low Cost Carriers

The new terminal is expected to be ready by early 2006

The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) will build a low cost terminal that can be used by low cost carriers (LCC) at Changi Airport. The terminal, located along Airport Boulevard, is expected to be ready by early 2006.

CAAS' decision to proceed with the building of the low cost terminal was based on an agreement signed with Tiger Airways representing the airline's firm commitment to operate from the new terminal. The low cost terminal will be built in a modular fashion, taking into consideration the needs of the carriers using the terminal. The low cost terminal will have an initial handling capacity of 2.7 million passengers a year. There is scope for further expansion should more carriers want to use the terminal.

Operating costs at the new terminal will be lower than at Terminals 1 and 2. This is in line with the needs and operating models of low cost carriers. To keep costs down, the low cost terminal will, inter alia:

- (1) be a single-storey building;
- (2) contain no travellers or escalators; and
- (3) contain no aerobridges.

While a key consideration is to keep operating costs low, this does not mean the low cost terminal will offer no services. For example, will be a shuttle bus service to link passengers to Changi Airport's existing terminals, and vice versa. Services and facilities such as money changers, duty-free shopping, and food and beverage outlets, will also be available. More details of the low cost terminal, including its detailed layout, will be announced at a later date.

The tender to design and build the low cost terminal will be called this week and is expected to be awarded by the end of the year.