

28 Jun 2004

Second Record Set at Changi Airport This Year

History was made at Singapore's Changi Airport today. The non-stop flight from Singapore to New York took off for the first time from Changi, at noon today. With the flying duration at about 18 hours and the physical distance at 16,600 kilometres, Singapore Airlines' SQ 22 is the longest non-stop flight in commercial aviation history. This is made possible with the use of the ultra-long-range aircraft, the A340-500.

Passengers travelling on the record-setting inaugural flight to New York were sent off at Changi Airport by top executives from the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) and SIA. To commemorate the landmark flight to the Big Apple, CAAS also gave away some 20 thousand red apples free to all passengers departing Changi today from 6am to 10pm.

The flight to New York marks the second record set at Changi within the short span of five months. In February 2004, SIA launched its non-stop service to Los Angeles, also from Changi. At that time, the Singapore-Los Angeles flight was the longest non-stop commercial flight, with about 16 hours of flying time and physical distance of 14,700 kilometers.

Changi Airport now operates more than 3,500 weekly scheduled flights between Singapore and over 160 cities in more than 50 countries.