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Singapore Changi Airport Achieves New Record for Number of Flights

Singapore Changi Airport's status as an air hub received a boost with improved connectivity in the Northern Winter Season 2006, which spans from 29 October 2006 to 24 March 2007. Changi Airport now handles a record number of more than 4,160 weekly scheduled flights, an increase of 168 flights compared to the same period last year. The year-on-year growth can be attributed to the strong expansion of operations by both existing airlines and new airlines at Changi Airport.

The key regions that contributed to the growth included South East Asia, North Asia and South Asia. There has been a net increase of almost 120 weekly flights to destinations in South East Asia, including Phuket, Jakarta and Kota Kinabalu. These flights were launched by Tiger Airways, SilkAir and Malaysia Airlines. Connectivity to North and South Asia also strengthened, particularly to Hong Kong and Taipei in North Asia and Delhi and Chennai in South Asia.

Seven new airlines also joined the Changi family in 2006. They are Shanghai Airlines Cargo, Egypt Air, Cebu Pacific, South African Airways, Air India Express, Jetstar Airways and Air Madagascar.

Shanghai Airlines Cargo's commencement of services on 16 June 2006 came at a time of strong air cargo growth between Singapore and Shanghai. Its 16 weekly flights is the highest number of all-cargo flights operated by an airline between Singapore and Shanghai. Air India Express, the first Indian low-cost carrier to fly to Singapore, commenced operations on the Singapore-Chennai route on 29 October 2006. Air India Express has plans to grow its services to Singapore from Chennai, as well as to launch new flights from other Indian destinations.

"We welcome the seven new airlines to the Changi family. These new additions are testament to the strong partnership between CAAS and its airline partners. The improved connectivity further enhances Changi Airport's position as an air hub, in today's increasingly competitive environment. CAAS will continue to help airlines grow their business in Singapore and to attract new carriers to join the Changi family," said Mr Wong Woon Liong, Director-General of Civil Aviation, Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS).

As at November 2006, Changi Airport serves 84 scheduled airlines which connect Singapore to more than 180 cities in 57 countries via more than 4,160 weekly scheduled flights.