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27-29 May 2009
Foyer 1, Level 2, Singapore Expo

ASX 2009 plays host to Singapore's inaugural convergence of Aerospace Suppliers and Leading Aerospace OEMs and MROs

- *Asia Pacific Aerospace Manufacturing sees positive outlook with the emergence of new manufacturing plants this year*
- *Some 20 esteemed speakers will share their knowledge on current issues and trends in the aerospace industry*
- *Over 30 local aerospace suppliers step forward to showcase their capabilities to the industry even in the midst of the economic crisis*
- *A strategic platform to foster possible business collaborations through a B2B matching session*

SINGAPORE (21 May 2009) - Over 100 leading MROs, OEMs and aerospace companies coming from some eight participating countries; namely Singapore, Australia, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, Thailand, USA, and Vietnam will converge at the Singapore Expo from 27-29 May 2009, as the Aerospace Supplier eXchange (ASX) plays host to Singapore's inaugural aerospace suppliers event.

ASX 2009, a regional conference and exhibition that focuses on the support capabilities of Tier 3 and 4 suppliers that serve the aerospace OEMs and maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) companies, will be a grand showcase of innovative products and services for the growing aerospace industry.

In a recent preliminary study by the AAIS, the global Aerospace manufacturing revenue for commercial aircraft in 2008 was estimated to register more than US\$221.1 billion, while the Asia Pacific's revenue was at US\$24.73 billion or 11 percent of the global output. Even as global aerospace manufacturing revenue is expected to triple from now till 2030, the Asia Pacific manufacturing revenue is expected to increase by more than seven times, outpacing the global growth rate.

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Despite the current economic situation, the Aerospace Manufacturing continues to see positive indicators of growth and development through the emergence of new aerospace manufacturing plants in 2009. Further, with increasing cost pressures, the Frost and Sullivan Aerospace and Defense practice predicts the increased outsourcing of work packages to Asia Pacific OEMs, which will then cause a positive ripple effect amongst the suppliers in the Asia Pacific.

Among these new manufacturing plants that are starting operations in Asia are Rolls Royce in Singapore, Honeywell Aerospace, and Spirit Aerosystems in Malaysia. The presence of these leading OEMs into the region will continue to send positive signals to the OEMs in North America and Europe to explore and enter the promising Asia Pacific market.

“We envision ASX as a key event to grow the aerospace supplier base in Singapore and throughout the region. In addition, this premier industry event will bring a new wave of opportunities for networking, business and knowledge sharing in Singapore’s aerospace industry.”, said Dr Aloysius Tay, Chief Executive of the Association of Aerospace Industries (Singapore).

At the ASX 2009, **12** overseas buyers from the **USA, UK, France and India** in the area of aircraft engine manufacture, avionics and a strong Tier 2 components manufacturer will be matched with local companies and SMEs who can meet their procurement requirements which include machining, casting, coating, plating, heat treatment, embedded computing products and more.

“The capabilities of Singapore’s aerospace supply base are keeping in tandem with the emergence of Singapore as a major aerospace MRO hub in Asia. To promote the overseas growth of Singapore-based enterprises, IE Singapore is pleased to work with our partner, AAIS, to provide immense opportunities for local suppliers to meet with key aerospace procurement decision makers in one to one business meetings through the Global Asia Trade Exchange (GATE) 09 platform,” said Mr Thian Tai Chew, Director, Technology Business Division, IE Singapore.

GATE 09 Aerospace, a B2B business matching programme managed by International Enterprise (IE) Singapore and the AAIS, pre-matches aerospace buyers with the most suitable suppliers in a pre-qualification process to facilitate efficient sourcing of end-to-end solutions for the industry.

“In addition to the main conference and exhibition, visitors can also avail of free industry seminars on national workplace safety & health, advance performance based logistics, trade compliance, aerospace certification and more, which allow knowledge upgrading on relevant information of the industry. We are projecting to welcome some 2,000 visitors throughout the three-day event,” said Ms Rosalind Ng, Managing Director of IIR Exhibitions Pte Ltd.

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Held concurrently with the exhibition is a comprehensive conference that provides valuable knowledge on key hot topics such as safety and risk management, business strategy procurement, aerospace supply chain, certification and regulations, and many others.

With about 20 esteemed speakers from around the world, companies like Aerostrategy Limited, CAA International of the UK, the USA Federal Aviation Administration and Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore will share their valuable insights and experiences on the aerospace sector in general encompassing requirements and topics for both the MRO and Manufacturing communities.

Graced by Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr Lim Hng Kiang, the ASX 2009 Opening Ceremony will also witness the signing of a number of MOUs cementing new business arrangements in the industry. They include the signing of an agreement for a local aerospace training organization to export their programmes to Jamaica, as well as a consortium formation to facilitate the export of four local aerospace companies.

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Notes for the Editor:

Aerospace Supplier eXchange 2009 is supported by IE Singapore and SPRING Singapore. The inaugural ASX 2009 will have a full 2-day conference complemented by a 3-day exhibition, where the industry will come together to network and attend seminars by expert speakers, as well as understand the procurement and quality needs of major OEMs. Intended to be a biennial event, the ASX aims to be the premier event for all Tier 3 and 4 companies to exhibit their products and services, and one whereby buyers from the Tier 1 and 2 suppliers and OEM will view as vital to their sourcing needs.

IE Singapore will also be jointly organising GATE 2009 Aerospace with the AAIS, a premier procurement event held in conjunction to ASX 2009. GATE, or Global-Asia Trade Exchange, is an initiative that enables Singapore companies to meet with key procurement decision-makers from global OEMs. Buyers are matched with the most suitable suppliers, based on their detailed requirements. Essentially a global buyer-centric platform, it will facilitate the sourcing of end-to-end solutions for the aerospace industry.

About the Association of Aerospace Industries (Singapore) - AAIS

The Association of Aerospace Industries (Singapore) or "AAIS", a non-profit organisation, is a leading industry association for the Aerospace Industry in Singapore that represents companies from the Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) sector, Aerospace Manufacturing sector, Research and Development / Training sectors and suppliers for civil air transport and aerospace defence. The AAIS endeavours to provide leadership by facilitating strategies in innovation competitiveness, technical standards and accreditation. It also serves as a forum for members to discuss and elevate relevant issues to policy-makers and stakeholders.

Within the AAIS, the AAIS AeroResource Centre focuses on building industry and manpower development capabilities, with the aim of enhancing the competitiveness of the aerospace industries and the capabilities of aerospace suppliers. It is the one-stop avenue for the aerospace industry's growth needs and a launch pad for suppliers to establish themselves in the industry and overseas growth markets. Please visit www.aais.org for more information and news about AAIS.

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