



For Immediate Release

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HAECO breaks ground for third hangar in Hong Kong

Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company Ltd. (HAECO) held a ground-breaking ceremony today to mark the start of construction of its third aircraft maintenance hangar at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA).

At an investment of HK\$670 million, the world-class 16,000 square-metre facility will be able to simultaneously accommodate two wide-bodied aircraft and one nose-in aircraft to provide a total of three Boeing 747 sized aircraft maintenance positions. Scheduled for full operation in June 2009, the new hangar will allow a 33% increase in annual heavy maintenance capacity at HKIA, and will result in the creation of 350 skilled new jobs in Hong Kong.

HAECO opened its second hangar at HKIA in December last year. The facilities in operation at present are able to accommodate eight aircraft maintenance positions.

Secretary for Transport and Housing of the Hong Kong SAR Government Ms. Eva Cheng and Airport Authority Hong Kong Chief Executive Officer Mr. Stanley Hui officiated at today's ground-breaking ceremony with HAECO's Chairman Mr. Christopher Pratt, and Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Mr. P.K. Chan.

"For more than half a century, Hong Kong has been regarded as one of the safest aviation ports in the world. Reliable and comprehensive services of HAECO are an important contributing factor to our excellent track record," said Ms. Cheng. "The investment in the third hangar demonstrates HAECO's strong confidence in its line of business as well as in the future development of Hong Kong as a premier aviation hub," she added.

"Heavy aircraft maintenance is a globally competitive business, and one in which HAECO and Hong Kong have together developed a sound reputation for quality and on time delivery. In addition, the growing economy of the Pearl River Delta region has itself continued to fuel air traffic growth in Hong Kong, resulting in a rising demand for aircraft base maintenance services. The construction of the third hangar in Hong Kong will provide needed capacity to meet the robust demand for heavy maintenance work from our customers' expanding fleet," said Mr. Pratt. "The fact that we commence construction of a new facility at HKIA in less than ten months since we opened our second hangar underlines our commitment to upholding Hong Kong's position as a leader in world-class aircraft maintenance services," he added.

HAECO is one of the world's leading aeronautical engineering groups, and is currently the only full service provider to commercial aircraft transiting Hong Kong International Airport, offering a comprehensive package that includes full technical certification, line maintenance, airframe heavy checks, major structural modifications, repair, overhaul, and painting, as well as overhaul capability on a wide range of avionics and mechanical components. In addition to its scheduled base maintenance customers, the company provides round-the-clock ramp handling and maintenance services for over 60 major airline customers, handling an average of 90,000 movements a year. HAECO is publicly listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (stock code : 00044).

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Fact Sheet

Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company Limited (HAECO) Third Hong Kong Hangar

Investment	HK\$670 million
Staffing	In addition to HAECO's normal intake of staff to meet projected growth, the new hangar will result in the creation of 350 skilled new jobs.
Location	The hangar will be built adjacent to the existing second hangar. A covered link bridge will be built to connect the second and third hangar to provide convenient access for staff.
Consultant	Meinhardt is providing Lead Design and Consultancy Services.
Design	<p>The 168m by 98m hangar can accommodate two wide-bodied aircraft and one nose-in aircraft for which the tail of the aircraft is covered by one of the two Mobile Tail Enclosures (MTE) to provide a total of three Boeing 747 sized maintenance positions. The hangar design gives a totally column free space underneath, allowing great flexibility in maintenance planning, and will be equipped with two full sets of docking.</p> <p>This world class hangar includes additional specialised workshops, stores and a purpose designed staff canteen for 470 staff and will be capable of carrying out all forms of heavy maintenance and aircraft modification work.</p> <p>It is designed to be environmentally friendly and more than complies with Airport Authority Hong Kong and Hong Kong SAR Government environmental standards.</p> <p>The building of another major hangar underlines HAECO continued confidence in the future of Hong Kong as a world class aviation hub providing competitive world class aircraft maintenance to all airlines using Hong Kong, and is planned to be in full operation by the middle of 2009. HAECO would like to thank Hong Kong SAR Government and Airport Authority Hong Kong for their continued helpful assistance and support.</p>