



**HONG KONG AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED**  
(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)  
(Stock Code: 44)

**Appointment of Non-Executive Director**

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company Limited (the “Company”) announces that Mr. Merlin Bingham SWIRE has been appointed as a Non-Executive Director of the Company with effect from 1st January 2009.

Mr. Merlin Swire, aged 35, joined the John Swire & Sons Limited group in 1997 and has worked with the group in the United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Mainland China. He was Director and Chief Executive Officer of Taikoo (Xiamen) Aircraft Engineering Company Limited, a subsidiary of the Company, from May 2006 until June 2008. He is a Director and shareholder of John Swire & Sons Limited and Swire Pacific Limited. He holds an honours degree in classics from Oxford University.

In accordance with the Company’s Articles of Association, Mr. Merlin Swire will hold office until the annual general meeting to be held in 2009 and will then be eligible for election; thereafter he will retire at the third annual general meeting following his election by ordinary resolution and will be eligible for re-election. Mr. Merlin Swire has entered into a letter of appointment, which constitutes a service contract, with the Company for a term of one year until the annual general meeting to be held in 2009, which will be renewed for a term of three years upon each election/re-election. Mr. Merlin Swire is not entitled to receive any emolument or director’s fee from the Company.

Mr. Merlin Swire does not have any interest (within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance) in the shares of the Company.

John Swire & Sons Limited and its subsidiary Swire Pacific Limited are controlling shareholders of the Company. As stated above, Mr. Merlin Swire is a Director and shareholder of John Swire & Sons Limited and Swire Pacific Limited. Apart from these, he has no relationship with any director, senior management or substantial or controlling shareholder of the Company.

Save as disclosed above, there is no other information relating to Mr. Merlin Swire to be disclosed pursuant to Rule 13.51(2) of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited and there is no other matter which needs to be brought to the attention of the shareholders of the Company.



As at the date of this announcement, the Directors of the Company are:

Executive Directors: C.D. Pratt (Chairman), J.C.G. Bremridge, P.K. Chan, M. Hayman, M.M.S. Low, M.J.A. Sathianathan, A.K.W. Tang;

Non-Executive Directors: M. Cubbon, C.P. Gibbs, D.C.Y. Ho, P.A. Johansen, M.B. Swire, The Hon. Sir Michael Kadoorie (Alternate Director to D.C.L. Tong); and

Independent Non-Executive Directors: R.E. Adams, A.K.Y. Lam, L.K.K. Leong and D.C.L. Tong.

By Order of the Board

**Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company Limited**

David Fu

Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 1st January 2009