

# The sky's no limit for new air show

By Mak Ying Kwan

Delegates of Singapore Airshow, which will take place from February 19 to 24 2008, can expect several firsts.

One of these is a closed-door aviation summit that brings together officials from transport ministries, airport operators and airline chiefs to examine issues such as environment, security and regulatory topics, with speakers from both government and the private sector.

Another new feature is a directory of new companies and displays of new innovations on the show floor.

Also new is an outdoor terrain in the Land Defence section for unmanned vehicle systems and land defence vehicles to demonstrate their capabilities.

This outdoor terrain is part of the 30-hectare Changi Exhibition Centre, being built at a cost of S\$62 million (US\$40.4 million). Organiser, Singapore Airshow and Events managing director, Mr Jimmy Lau, said: "The new site and facilities will allow us to execute a refreshed concept to Singapore Airshow."

The venue will be ready in August and will be owned and managed by Singapore



Airshow and Events. Daily team aerobatics will be a feature of the show.

Singapore's Black Knights, flying F16 aircraft, has confirmed its participation.

Exhibitors will also showcase some of their latest civil and military "fly-wares" during the daily air display.

About 30,000 trade visitors, half of whom are expected from 45 countries, and 6,000 sellers are likely to attend.

Mr Lau said: "I expect space in the 40,000m<sup>2</sup> exhibition hall to be fully taken up.

"The show is poised to be at least 30 per cent bigger than the (Asian Aerospace) show in 2006 and expected to con-

tribute an estimated S\$50 million to the Singapore economy."

One of the official hotels, Swissôtel The Stamford, Singapore general manager, Mr Aiden McAuley, said: "To date, we are pleased with the bookings received and are expecting to have more compared to 2006 (for Asian Aerospace).

"Given the scale of the event, there will be spinoff meetings and functions. This will translate into more revenue for the restaurants, bars and outside catering."

The organiser said the show would be held in Singapore every two years.

---

## CONTACTS

**Mr Jimmy Lau**

*Managing director*

*Singapore Airshow and Events*

Tel: (65) 6542-8660

email: jimlau@singaporeairshow.com.sg

website: [www.singaporeairshow.com](http://www.singaporeairshow.com)

**Mr Aiden McAuley**

*General manager*

*Swissôtel the Stamford, Singapore*

Tel: (65) 6338-8585

email: [singapore-stamford@swissotel.com](mailto:singapore-stamford@swissotel.com)

website: [www.singapore-stamford.swissotel.com](http://www.singapore-stamford.swissotel.com)