

8 Oct 2004

Changi Airport Terminal 2's S\$240 Million Facelift is Almost Half Completed

New facilities for passengers are progressively rolled out to enhance shopping, dining and entertainment experience for visitors to Changi Airport. A new "Skyplex Entertainment Lounge" was launched by Minister for Transport Yeo Cheow Tong

Works to upgrade Changi Airport's Terminal 2 (T2) are about 40 percent completed. The S\$240 million construction has been progressing smoothly and improvements to the physical appearance, layout, facilities and commercial mix of T2 are already evident to visitors.

The upgraded T2 will have a modern look with the clever use of lush greenery and glass to introduce more lighting into the 14-year-old terminal building. While the renovation is still underway, visitors to the Airport can already get a glimpse of T2's new look the minute they step onto the kerbside at the departure level. A new glass canopy to shield travellers from the sun and the rain is partially completed and now covers two entrances at the departure level. Other improvements to the physical appearance include glass panels at the departure level to let in more natural lighting, new escalators for better access eating outlets, a new skylight above the north departure immigration hall and a new lift in the north immigration arrival hall for less mobile passengers. There is also an interesting leaf-shape ceiling structure above the check-in islands that enhances the ambience at the check-in areas.

As the renovation continues, space is being freed up progressively for more new retail and food & beverage outlets, as well as for new facilities. Since the renovation of T2 started in April 2003, the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) has introduced space for about 20 new retail outlets and 20 new F&B outlets and kiosks in T2, both in the public and transit areas. These additions allow CAAS to introduce a new shopping and feasting experience at Changi Airport.

New facilities for passengers have also been added. These include the Skyplex Entertainment Lounge which was officially launched by the Minister for Transport Mr Yeo Cheow Tong today. Travellers at Singapore Changi Airport can now get to see "live" images of 25 famous landmarks and locations in 9 cities around the world from a special touch-screen at the Lounge. Details of the lounge are included in *Annex 1*.

Mr Yeo officiated the launch when he visited T2 to view the progress of the renovation works. He applauded efforts taken by CAAS to minimize disruptions to airport operations and to ensure that travellers are not inconvenienced by the extensive upgrading, which will be completed by 2006.

Annex 1: Touch and View Famous Landmarks in Cities Around the World from Just One Location at Changi Airport

Travellers at Singapore Changi Airport can now get to see "live" images of 25 famous landmarks and locations in 9 cities around the world from a special touch-screen at Changi Airport 's latest integrated entertainment passenger facility, the "Skyplex Entertainment Lounge".

The lounge is one of the new facilities at Changi Airport introduced with the upgrading at Terminal 2. The Skyplex Entertainment Lounge houses cutting-edge technology to enhance the entertainment experience and keeps travellers abreast with the latest world events and happenings through "live" screenings of sporting events, breaking news and other popular entertainment programmes.

One feature at the "Skyplex Entertainment Lounge" is an interactive plasma screen which allows travellers to zoom in and enjoy panoramic views of famous landmarks and locations such as Big Ben, the Eiffel Tower, Victoria Harbour, the Statue of Liberty , Times Square in 9 cities (Tokyo , Osaka , Hong Kong , London , Paris , Frankfurt , Chicago , New York and Singapore) from a touch-screen globe. What's more, the images are brought "live" to Changi Airport , via Internet broadband connection on webcams located in these cities. In addition, time and weather information are displayed on the plasma screen to give travellers up-to-date information on these cities. Even Singapore 's "Merlion" statue and the Chinatown area, are captured on the interactive screen.

The entertainment lounge is divided into three zones, each focusing on a different channel programme. One of these zones showcases the "Finite Listening Zone" (FLZ) technology which allows sounds to be contained within a limited area. With this technology, sound spillage can be minimized so as not to interfere with travellers watching a different programme in another zone nearby.