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CAAS Tests Terminal 3's Operational Readiness in Fire Drill

The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) conducted a fire drill at Singapore Changi Airport's new Terminal 3 this morning as part of the series of tests and trials planned for Terminal 3. The drill demonstrated the operational readiness of CAAS' Airport Emergency Service (AES) to deal with emergencies at Terminal 3 ahead of the commencement of flight operations on 9 January 2008.

The drill simulated a fire starting in a restaurant's kitchen, leading to smoke engulfing the restaurant. Simulated casualties with injuries were also deployed to enhance the realism of the exercise. In response, more than 10 airport emergency officers were activated to ensure the swift evacuation of the terminal building and effective mitigation of the situation. About 250 participants, including staff of airport agencies and tenants as well as other volunteers, took part in the drill.

CAAS' Director-General and Chief Executive Officer, Mr Lim Kim Choon, said, "Today's fire drill is another step forward in our preparations for Terminal 3 to begin flight operations in January. The exercise enabled the AES to put into effect Terminal 3's Fire Emergency Plan and familiarise the fire wardens and airport staff with the evacuation routes and fire assembly areas." Mr Lim added, "CAAS will continue to work with airlines, airport agencies, ground handlers, shop tenants and other airport business partners in the final phase of preparations before the opening of Terminal 3."

The fire drill is one of the some 50 trials and tests that are being conducted at Terminal 3. CAAS is also conducting trials on the ease of passenger flow through the terminal and the readiness of various terminal systems and facilities such as the baggage handling system, among others.