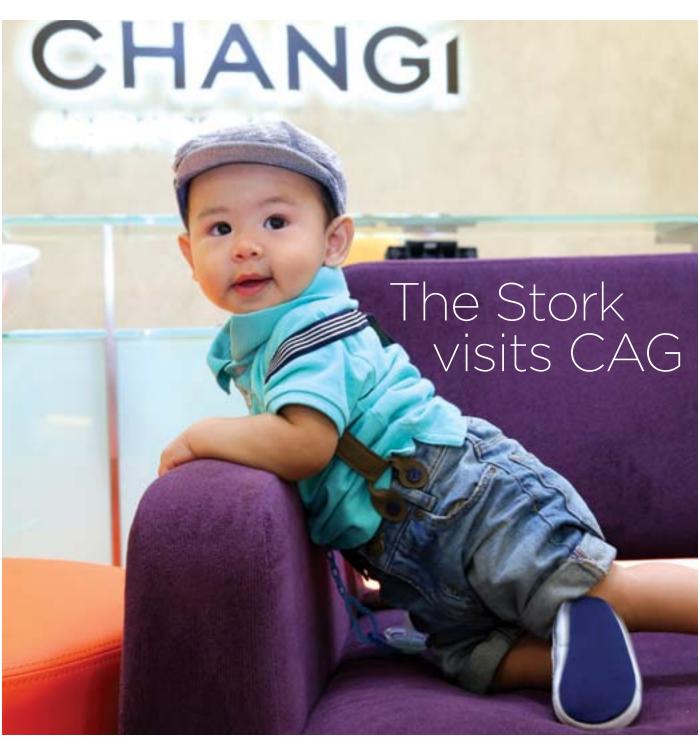


# CHANGI JUNE 2013

ISSUE 20



A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF CHANGI AIRPORT GROUP

# CHANGI'S SKYTRAX HAT-TRICK

Changi Airport has once again proven to be a hit amongst global travellers. Adding yet another feather to its cap of being the world's most awarded airport, Changi recently received one of the most coveted accolades in the aviation industry – World's Best Airport at the 2013 Skytrax World Airport Awards.

The results of the World Airport Awards were based on 12 million passenger surveys that were completed across a 10-month period, covering more than 388 airports. The survey evaluates total passenger experience across various airport service touch points and facilities.

At the awards presentation ceremony in Geneva, Switzerland, it was a hat-trick for Changi Airport which, besides securing the World's Best Airport award, also took home accolades for Best Airport in Asia and Best Airport for Leisure Amenities.

Collecting the award was Mr Lee Seow Hiang, CAG's Chief Executive Officer, who said, "Winning the Skytrax World's Best Airport award again is an immense honour for Changi Airport. It is as much a recognition of the passion of the 32,000-strong airport community that is the backbone of Changi's collaborative and well-oiled operational processes, as it is an affirmation of our mantra in putting our passengers at the heart of all that we do."

"We believe in focusing on passengers' needs and providing them with only the best of airport experiences, with our exciting slew of offerings introduced through the years that add a touch of delight for our passengers. Our success has been possible only with the contributions of our partners. We thank them for their fullest support and our passengers for their vote of confidence," Mr Lee added.



## PLAN YOUR 'WEEKEND ESCAPADES' ON-THE-GO

Energised by the sheer thought of upcoming long weekends (read: opportunity for short holidays) but stumped by a lack of inspiration (read: not Bali and Bangkok again!)? Help is here in the form of a new travel app called *Weekend Escapades*, targeted at the inner avid traveller in many Singapore residents.

Developed by Changi Airport Group, this free travel app features a gamut of recommendations - what to see, eat and do, and where to stay - from over 30 weekend destinations across 11 countries located within a five-hour flight radius of Singapore. Besides the usual hotspots of Bangkok, Bali and Hong Kong, the app introduces less-trodden destinations that make for great weekend explorations or a relaxing respite from our daily grind. Destinations include Miri, Yogyakarta, Vientiane and Changsha.

Specially designed for the time-strapped holiday maker, information is compiled by experienced travel writers from Lonely Planet Asia and Escape!



Magazines, presented in an easy-to-read, bite-sized format. The app includes maps, comprehensive flight searches and the latest airline promotions. Users can either search for ideas by country or by event, the latter of which is curated to present the most exciting festivals in all 30 cities across the calendar year.

Feedback has been nothing less than positive. *Shermaniac*, who reviewed the app on the iTunes store and rated it five stars, said,

"Fantastic app that offers travel itinerary for each destination!!". Another reviewer, *LTerrance*, who clearly loved the app, said, "It's so comprehensive and handy! It saves me the trouble to hunt and check for short weekend getaways. Awesome!".

Download *Weekend Escapades* from Apple or Android app stores, and you may be on your way to a weekend getaway for the upcoming long weekend!





Size DOES matter.

The contest with the LARGEST prize purse in Singapore has returned, in a BIG way, literally. From 1 May to 31 October 2013, the fourth instalment of Changi Airport's 'Be a Changi Millionaire' retail promotion – its annual anchor promotion that features the grand prize of S\$1 million – returned with a whimsical fantasy theme, with all event sites across Changi's terminals designed to look like a giant shopping wonderland – allowing shoppers the opportunity to turn their millionaire fantasy into reality.

At Terminal 3's Departure Hall, airport visitors spot fun photo opportunities at a magical wonderland featuring whimsical giant installations of retail products. Each of the product installations are larger-than-life replicas of actual items bought by previous Changi Millionaire winners, including a camera, fragrance and cosmetics.

SINCE 'BE A CHANGI MILLIONAIRE' WAS FIRST LAUNCHED IN 2010, THE DRAW HAS MADE THREE OF CHANGI'S SHOPPERS, INCLUDING TWO SINGAPOREANS AND AN AUSTRALIAN, INSTANT MILLIONAIRES. WHILE THE MAIN ATTRACTION OF THE DRAW REMAINS THE AMAZING GRAND PRIZE OF S\$1 MILLION, THE PROMOTION IS REFRESHED EACH TIME, SUCH THAT VISITORS CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE EACH YEAR, WITH NEW ACTIVITIES ON THE GROUND.





One finalist will be drawn each month, with the six finalists at the end of the promotion participating in the Grand Draw. The finalists win a 4D/3N stay in Singapore and S\$5,000 Cash, while one will emerge from the Grand Draw a million dollars richer. Apart from a chance to win S\$1 million, shoppers can also win attractive instant prizes including the new iPad mini, a Samsung Galaxy camera, travel accessories and shopping vouchers. At the instant game stations located across our terminals, interactive display screens provide live updates of instant prizes being won, amplifying the excitement to yet another notch. To participate in the draw, shoppers simply have to spend a minimum of \$30 in a single receipt on shopping or dining.

For more information on this truly life-changing experience, visit **changiairport.com/millionaire** now! You may be the world's brand new millionaire!



### CHANGI AIRPORT'S REAL ESTATE PLANNERS

Mapping the blueprint of Changi Airport is all in a day's work for CAG's Engineering and Master Planning Division. And by blueprint, we are not just referring to what Changi will look like in the next five, 10 or even 20 years, but more so, an expansive bird's eye view of land-use planning for its capacity, which includes developing Changi's infrastructure to meet future air traffic demand.

*Changi Connection* speaks to CAG's female engineers from the Engineering and Master Planning Division – a team of more than 100 professionals, 30% of whom are women.

Sabrina Siew and Yong Swee Ying are examples as to why females are no longer considered the fairer gender in the engineering field. With years of experience under their belts, Sabrina and Swee Ying have both successfully seen through projects from sketches to fruition.

Humbly refusing to call themselves "architects" of one of Singapore's most-loved icons, both ladies are part of Changi's upcoming key development projects. Swee Ying is currently involved in the conceptual planning and design of the Multi-Aircraft Receiving Stands project, as well as the land use plan of Changi Creek – which consists of Changi Airport's nursery and aircraft maintenance facilities. Sabrina, on the other hand, is currently part of the passenger terminal capacity planning team, undertaking capacity studies for the upcoming Terminal 1 expansion project.

"It is very exciting to be involved in a project where I get to see the terminal being formed from drawings on paper to completion," says Swee Ying. "It is also an honour as our terminal buildings help form the many first impressions of Singapore. In a way, it is rather humbling."

A major part of their job involves capacity building - ranging from adding check-in counters, upgrading specialised systems, to expanding the footprint of a terminal to allow for larger circulation space. In providing a desired level of service to airport users, Sabrina explains that capacity is measured by how well the airport utilises its space, without compromising on passengers' comfort needs.

The team determines a terminal's capacity through 3D-simulation modelling, where the team simulates actual ground conditions of each terminal as much as possible, with each passenger processing point being stress-tested. Flights are pumped into these simulation models until the terminal's capacity reaches its limit. Once the desired performance and service standard deteriorates, it is a signal to show that the terminal has hit its limit of passenger capacity.

The ladies' latest project on Terminal 4 aims to increase the terminal's productivity and efficiency. Swee Ying says: "Terminal 4 is envisaged to be a boutique terminal with fine attention to details in terms of its design and décor.

"The passenger's journey through this terminal will be seamless, through effective use of technology and integration of space," she added.

Alongside their teams in the Engineering and Master Planning Division, Sabrina and Swee Ying play vital roles in helping the airport set the standard as a leading global air hub. Together, they are hopeful that Changi Airport will continue to keep its competitive edge and remain unrivalled for many years to come.

# AIRLINE PARTNERS HONOURED AT CHANGI AIRLINE AWARDS

It was a night of celebration and cheer as Changi Airport Group (CAG) honoured its top airlines at the eighth annual Changi Airline Awards ceremony on 7 May, with FedEx being bestowed the biggest accolade for the evening – Partner of the Year.

Awards were presented in five categories: top airlines by passenger and cargo carriage; strongest growing airline by passenger and cargo growth as well as Partner of the Year. In all, 34 awards were presented to the airline community for contributing to Changi Airport's growth in the past year.

Speaking at the event, Mr Lee Seow Hiang, CEO of CAG, thanked the airline community who has been instrumental in the steady growth of Changi Airport. Mr Lee said: "The Changi Airline Awards were launched in 2005 when Changi Airport handled only 32 million passenger movements. Eight years on, Changi Airport has grown to become a thriving air hub and an important gateway to the rest of the world, and is one of just seven airports in the world handling more than 50 million international passengers each year.

"We are extremely grateful to our airline partners who have supported us over the years. Your unyielding support has made Changi what it is today," he added.

#### FEDEX WINS PARTNER OF THE YEAR

FedEx Express was presented the Partner of the Year award, in recognition of its commitment to grow and strengthen Changi Airport's air cargo hub status, as well as to enhance the airport's express cargo handling capabilities.

In October 2012, FedEx opened its South Pacific Regional Hub at Changi Airport. The 282,700sqft hub enables FedEx to double throughput by sorting up to 12,000 packages in an hour, hence strengthening its position in the express freight business, boosting Changi's express cargo handling capability.

With 34 weekly flights in and out of Singapore to nine destinations in Asia and the US, FedEx has enhanced Changi Airport's airfreight connectivity. This is the highest number of dedicated flights for any international express company operating its own aircraft fleet. More importantly, FedEx uses Singapore as the transshipment point for its Asia Pacific shipments in and out of Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asian countries. This has contributed strongly to FedEx's tonnage growth in 2012 despite the challenges faced by the airfreight industry.



**CHANGI AIRLINE AWARDS 2013 RECIPIENTS** 

#### PARTNER OF THE YEAR FedEx Express

#### **TOP 10 AIRLINES BY PASSENGER CARRIAGE**

(In order of merit, based on passenger carriage in 2012)

- 1. Singapore Airlines
- 2. Tiger Airways Singapore
- 3. SilkAir
- 4. Jetstar Asia
- 5. AirAsia Berhad
- 6. Qantas Airways
- 7. Cathay Pacific Airways
- 8. PT Lion Mentari Airlines
- 9. Emirates
- 10. Thai Airways International

#### TOP 10 AIRLINES BY CARGO CARRIAGE

(In order of merit, based on cargo carriage in 2012)

- 1. Singapore Airlines Cargo
- 2. FedEx Express
- 3. Cathay Pacific Airways
- 4. EVA Airways
- 5. Qantas Airways
- 6. China Airlines
- 7. Air Hong Kong
- 8. Korean Air
- 9. Asiana Airlines
- 10. Thai Airways International

#### TOP AIRLINE BY GROWTH IN PASSENGER

**CARRIAGE - BY REGION** (Based on the airline's home region, by absolute passenger growth in 2012)

| REGION            | AIRLINE                |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Americas          | Delta Air Lines        |
| Europe            | British Airways        |
| Middle East       | Emirates               |
| Northeast Asia    | Cathay Pacific Airways |
| Singapore         | Singapore Airlines     |
| Southeast Asia    | AirAsia Berhad         |
| South Asia        | Jet Airways            |
| Southwest Pacific | Jetstar Airways        |

#### **TOP 5 AIRLINES BY GROWTH IN CARGO CARRIAGE** (In order of merit by absolute cargo growth in 2012)

- 1. Tiger Airways Singapore
- 2. United Parcel Services
- 3. Cardig Air
- 4. Lufthansa Cargo AG
- 5. Qatar Airways



SOME OF THE HAPPY CAG DADS AND MUMS WITH THEIR LITTLE ON

### BABY BOOM AT CAG

It was a normal day at the office in February this year for Mr Kelvin Tan when he received news that turned his day upside down – his wife was about to give birth!

"The minute my boss knew that my wife was experiencing contractions, she told me to leave for the hospital immediately and offered to cover for my meetings and work," said Mr Tan, a senior manager at Changi Airport Group's (CAG) Terminal 4 Programme Management Office. "She was also the first person to visit my wife at the hospital."

Singapore's culture of long working hours and a rising cost of living have often been cited as reasons for its declining birth rate over the years. However, supportive management and pro-family policies at CAG have made the decision on having children easier for staff like Kelvin. The CAG stork was certainly kept busy last year, delivering 85 babies to CAG staff. Based on some estimates, with about 1,400 staff in total, the newborn rate at CAG was five times that of the rate among the working population in Singapore in 2012.

This achievement is due in no small part to the efforts of the Human Resource Division, which constantly seeks to instill a family-oriented culture that distinguishes CAG from other employers. This is evident in the various pro-family policies and childcare measures put in place to help employees cope with work and family commitments. Aside from maternity and paternity leave, employees are granted three extra days of child/parent sick leave per year, over and above the child sick leave mandated by the government. When an employee gets married or has a newborn baby, CAG also provides employees with a Marriage Cash Token of \$200 or a gift for the baby.

However, it is not just monetary benefits that encourage employees to start a family. One of the biggest contributing factors at CAG is the presence of a childcare centre, Learning Vision, at Changi Airport. Workplace childcare centres currently make up only 27 per cent of all childcare centres in Singapore.

CAG, RECOGNISING THE ROLE IT CAN PLAY IN ALLEVIATING THE BURDEN OF CHILD-REARING OF ITS STAFF, INITIATED THE SET-UP OF LEARNING VISION AT THE AIRPORT IN 2006 BY OFFERING PREFERENTIAL RENTAL RATES FOR THE SPACE. LOCATED AT TERMINAL 1, LEARNING VISION PROVIDES CHILDCARE SERVICES FOR TODDLERS (18 MONTHS) TO KINDERGARTEN 2 (6 YEARS OLD). AS A TESTAMENT OF ITS POPULARITY, CHILDREN OF CAG STAFF MAKE UP CLOSE TO 60 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL ENROLMENT AT LEARNING VISION.

Many employees feel that the centre provides high quality curriculum and that they provide a good teacher-child ratio. The teachers are also friendly and warm.

For Louise Koh from Cargo & Logistics Development, having a childcare centre within Changi Airport makes a big difference. "It is very assuring because when I'm working in the day, I know that my son is close by and if anything happens for example, if he were to fall sick in the middle of the day, it would be easy for me to reach him quickly."

Another initiative made by CAG is the flexi-work option, which allows employees to exercise flexibility with their work hours through part-time working or staggered hours. With flexible work arrangements in place, employees will be able to manage their time better and achieve a work-life balance between the needs of home and work. This helps to reduce absenteeism and increase employee satisfaction.

One CAG employee who has taken up flexible work arrangements is Ms Ng Koon Ling, Senior Manager, Corporate & Marketing Communications (CMC). With one of her three kids due to take the Primary School Leaving Examinations this year, Ms Ng received approval to work half-days for most of 2013, in order to spend more time at home to personally tutor her children.



"BEING ABLE TO SPEND MORE TIME AT HOME GIVES ME PEACE OF MIND THAT MY KIDS ARE WORKING HARD. MY KIDS ARE ALSO THRILLED TO HAVE ME AROUND, AND THIS HELPS ME BOND WITH THEM MORE." SAID MS NG, WHO CREDITS HER DIVISION HEAD, MR IVAN TAN, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF CMC, FOR BEING AN UNDERSTANDING SUPERIOR BY GRANTING HER THE APPROVAL DESPITE A BUSY YEAR.

In fact, Mr Tan has had a lot of practice juggling work allocation among a reduced team. In the Dragon year of 2012, five out of 18 managers in CMC had newborns. This was more than 40% of the female staff. The mothers went on maternity leave of four months and some extended their time-off from the office with annual and no-pay leave.



"It was a bumper year for CMC babies; extremely challenging, but with the cooperation of my remaining staff and smart allocation of resources, we were still able to function effectively as a Division," Mr Tan recounted. "What's important is that my staff have now come back as proud parents, happier and with a renewed vigour."

With many pro-family policies in place, it is also inevitable that there will be times when bosses have to cope with a lack of manpower when employees go on maternity leave or choose to have flexible work arrangements.

While it is easy to put in place policies and implement measures to ensure that the needs of parents with young children are taken care of, CAG recognises that it is the colleagues and superiors who ultimately form the bedrock upon which employees find support from, when the pressures of parenthood threaten to derail their commitment to their work. This support structure, while not institutionalised on paper, is as equally important.

Ms Justina Tan, Senior Vice President of the Human Resource Division, said: "We encourage bosses to be understanding toward mothers who are unable to work late on short notice, and have also come across cases where bosses rotate less heavy portfolios to parents with young children so that they can manage better. This was done on their own initiative and not because of any requirements dictated by Human Resource. Besides special leave policies and providing parentfriendly facilities, such as our nursing rooms, this is the kind of human touch that we believe sets CAG apart."

# PAVING THE WAY TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

Changi Airport is pressing its efforts towards environmental sustainability, becoming the first airport in the Asia-Pacific region to recycle concrete and using it to rejuvenate the pavement life span of 31 aircraft parking stands over the course of 10 years.

To alleviate waste disposal issues on land-scarce Singapore and reduce reliance on the import of natural raw materials for concrete production, CAG embarked on this greenfield project in 2009 to move towards environmental responsibility through the adoption of sustainable construction practices.

CAG partnered academic professionals and concrete material experts from the National University of Singapore's (NUS) Department of Civil Engineering to study the extraction of recycled concrete aggregates (RCAs) from construction waste.

THROUGH THIS RESEARCH, A NEW RECYCLING CONCRETE MIX USING 20% RCAs WAS SPECIALLY FORMULATED. THIS MATCHED THE INDUSTRY BENCHMARK SET BY THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY TO ENCOURAGE WIDER USE OF RECYCLED MATERIALS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND REDUCE SINGAPORE'S DEPENDENCY ON SAND AND GRANITE IN CONCRETE PRODUCTION.



DEMOLISHING THE EXISTING CONCRETE PAVEMENTS AT THE AIRCRAFT PARKING BAYS

Extensive laboratory trials were conducted to ensure the structural integrity and strength of the recycled concrete mix. With the completion of the research study in 2010, CAG was confident with the performance of the recycled concrete mix and kicked off Phase 1 of the project.

CAG engaged contractors to demolish the concrete pavements of eight existing aircraft parking stands, replacing them with the recycled concrete mix. After its successful completion in 2012, CAG took a step further to study the feasibility of using recycled concrete beyond 20% RCAs.

In the second phase that commenced early this year, CAG started extracting and reusing 40% of recycled concrete aggregates in a new concrete mix

to rehabilitate a further 10 aircraft parking stands, setting an even higher benchmark for sustainable construction practices.

Highlighting some of the challenges faced, NUS Professor Fwa Tien Fang said, "It requires immense commitment for CAG to push the envelope and use 40% high quality recycled concrete to rehabilitate its parking bays. To break up the concrete slabs into sizes suitable for new construction without any contamination, a rigorous quality control process is quintessential to the success of the project and CAG has achieved all of this within an incredibly short period of time."

CAG remains committed to sustainability and will always keep a constant lookout for ways to go green.



PAVING RCA PREMIX CONCRETE AT CHANGI'S AIRCRAFT PARKING STANDS

# GROUND PROTECTORS OF THE SKIES

Look, up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... bad news.

In the comic world, the sight of the ever-popular superhero 'Superman' signifies assurance (against danger). In reality, the sight of birds and planes within the same airspace is a cause of concern for airport operators worldwide. Flight mishaps can be caused by collisions between wildlife and aircraft. These are termed "wildlife strikes".

Wildlife strikes can result in costly damages to aircraft, delays to flights and in the worst-case scenario, aircraft accidents. In January 2009 for example, a U.S Airways plane ditched into the icy waters of Hudson River immediately after take-off from New York's LaGuardia Airport. The plane struck a flock of geese which resulted in a loss of engine power.

Closer to home with some 600 hectares of turf, presence of water bodies and at close proximity to wooded areas and the coast, Changi Airport is a sanctuary to birds and other forms of wildlife. Since 2009, CAG's Wildlife Management Team (WMT) has increasingly ramped up wildlife management initiatives that have yielded good results. That includes successfully maintaining the very low rate of wildlife strikes of just 0.5 per 1,000 aircraft movements for the past few years. As a result of the various initiatives undertaken by the WMT, there has been no need to cull birds at Changi Airport in the past three years.

### WILDLIFE CONTROL PROCEDURES

CAG's WMT conducts daily patrols to monitor wildlife movements within and around Changi Airport. Dispersal measures are carried out if birds are found near aircraft movement areas. Unknown to many, the WMT does this via an unusual method – the broadcasting of bird distress calls. The calls are calibrated to mimic different species, and cause birds to vacate the area. All sightings and dispersal actions are recorded in a proper system, allowing identification of wildlife hot spots within the aerodrome.

Infrastructural enhancements, such as anti-perching devices installed on railings, also help with bird control. These spring-loaded mechanisms make it difficult for birds to perch, discouraging them from coming within the airport's vicinity.

WMT officers also conduct regular inspections to prevent airport personnel from consuming food and beverages, or feeding birds and animals within the airside. Dustbins are also covered, to prevent birds from foraging for food.

#### WORKING WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Wildlife management at Changi is not a standalone effort and the WMT collaborates with both internal and external stakeholders to combat wildlife hazards. For example, CAG's Horticulture team ensures that no fruit bearing trees or plants, which attract animals, are planted within the aerodrome. CAG's Engineering team administers a grass cutting and maintenance programme to ensure that the turf area remains unattractive to birds.

CAG also collaborates with the National University of Singapore's Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research. the latter conducts quarterly censuses to determine



fluctuations in bird activities within the aerodrome, and assists in the identification of unknown bird carcasses involved in wildlife strikes.

In addition, CAG partners with the Nature Society to understand changes in the biodiversity of Singapore, and bird movements during the annual year-end migration season. This allows for the deployment of additional resources, such as increased patrols, during these periods.

### **CONSTANT CHALLENGE**

Wildlife management in an aerodrome is a constant challenge. Birds tend to adapt themselves to the dispersal and anti-perching measures over time, and CAG needs to continuously monitor the effectiveness of measures implemented and introduce new methods where appropriate. Some of these measures being considered include the use of non-toxic deterrent ingredients and netting over canals to prevent birds from looking for food. While it is not possible to completely eliminate wildlife strikes, the WMT is confident that its vigilant work will see it play its role as protector of the metal birds in the sky well.

Just like superman. But on ground.

# CANDY CRUSH AT CHANGI AIRPORT

Any attempt to resist the candies sold at Sophisca would be futile. Staring at the multiple rows of bottled colourful sweets, marshmallows, variety of flavoured chocolates alone is sufficient to make one squeal in delight.

at 16 22

Originating from Taiwan since 1997, the specialty candy outlet located at Terminal 3, Basement 2, features more than 150 types of candy in innovative and intriguing packaging. Those looking for gifts can also look to Sophisca for ideas.

Piece together a message using a variety of chocolates boxes or, for the more adventurous, the outlet also sells chocolates shaped like plasters, syringes, medicated ointment, sushi bento sets and even sanitary napkins – perfect gift ideas for friends and family!

And to seal the deal – a five per cent discount is extended to all CAG staff members, with no minimum purchase! Sweet!



# COFFEE, TEA OR TWG?

**IULTIPLE ROWS OF COLOURFUI** 

ANDY PACKAGING TO

ERS IN THE SOPHI

Holiday makers looking to enjoy a cuppa made from the finest range of tea leaves should pop by the TWG Tea store at Terminal 2 Departure/Transit Lounge before they fly off. The outlet, which welcomed its first guests at Changi Airport last October, offers loose tea collection with varieties from virtually every tea producing country in the world, including fresh harvests from the remote, postcard destinations of Laos, Malawi, Tanzania, and Hawaii.

These excellent gift ideas are perfect for the more discerning passenger, with much to choose from: brightly-coloured packed tins, tea accessories, teainfused macaroons and chocolate bonbons, are all available in a wide array of luxurious gift boxes.

TWG Tea believes that Changi Airport is Singapore's gateway to the world. Opening at Changi is most apt as their new boutique takes travellers on a unique journey through their globally sourced and inspired teas. Mr Taha Bouqdib, President of TWG Tea, said, "The new outlet also symbolises the home-grown brand's unrelenting expansion in Asia, with its recent glamorous entry into Bangkok and its upcoming openings in Tokyo and Manila."

Airport staff receive 10% off TWG Tea's products.

# SPICE UP YOUR PALATE WITH THAI CUISINE

Your mouth waters as the waiter places your order on the table. In one dish: fresh pink prawns, succulent mushrooms and fragrant green herbs swirl together in the tell-tale fiery red Tom Yum soup. In the other, Pad Thai – golden rice noodles entwine with pale strips of bean sprouts, sprinkled with finely chopped peanuts and chives. Tom Yum and Pad Thai are perhaps among the most popular Thai dishes, known for their mix of fragrant herbs and spices for an intense, fresh flavor.

Tom Yum soup, made from herbs like galangal, coriander and lemongrass, is said to possess medicinal properties and aid in weight loss. Traditional Thai folk doctors still prescribe the ingredients of Tom Yum soup, believing that they alleviate the symptoms of various ailments. A recent joint study by Thailand's University of Kasetsart and the Universities of Kyoto and Kinki in Japan showed that Tom Yum soup is many times more effective in fighting cancer cells than any other food. Regular consumption could also help one lose weight. The lemongrass present in the dish removes excess water weight, allowing the body to better process fats. Most of us recognise the dish as simply "Tom Yum", but did you know that the name differs with its ingredients? When prawn is used, it is known as "Tom Yum Goong". "Tom Yum Taleh" when white-flesh fish is used, and "Tom Yum Gai", or "Tom Kha", for chicken.

As for Pad Thai, it might be surprising to know that it was borne out of patriotism. After the revolt that turned "Siam" into "Thailand", the democratic leaders felt the country needed more reason for loyalty. It is said that the recipe, made up of only Thai produce, was created in the kitchen of one of these leaders and spread throughout the country.

Here at Changi Airport's Thai Express, located at Terminal 3, Pad Thai is highly sought after. Thai Express Manager, Mr Wilson Soon Jien Yang, says that it makes up for almost 50% of the daily order. It also happens to be one of the restaurant's signature dishes. An assortment of Tom Yum flavoured dishes are also amongst the most popular amongst patrons.

Other restaurants that offer Thai food to satiate spicelovers are Lerk Thai, which can be found at Terminal 3, and Central Thai, at Terminal 2.

Koh Hai Cha-roen Ar-harn! (Enjoy your meal!)



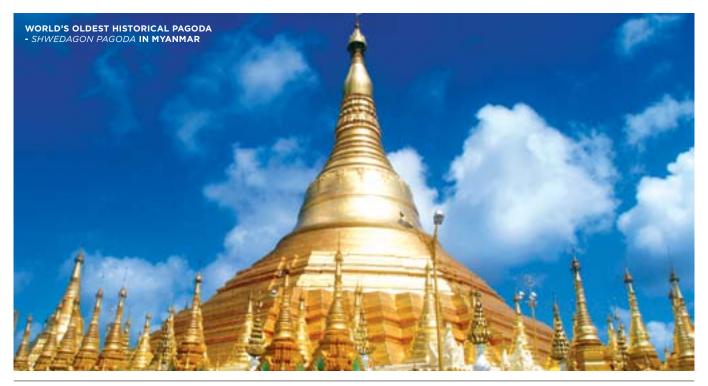
GOLDEN MYANMAR AIRLINE'S FIRST TOUCHDOWN AT CHANGI AIRPORT ON 5 APRIL 2013



# CHANGI WELCOMES GOLDEN MYANMAR AIRLINES

Visiting Myanmar's second largest city, Mandalay, is now easy with Golden Myanmar Airlines. Also known as Myanmar's last royal capital, Mandalay is a bustling and educational hub in Northern Myanmar, steeped in rich history and heritage.

The airline commenced its first international service to Singapore on 5 April 2013. It is the second Myanmar airline to operate at Changi after Myanmar Airlines International. The low-cost carrier operates daily from Mandalay to Singapore, with a brief layover at Yangon. Flight timings are most ideal, allowing travellers to leave Mandalay in the morning and Singapore in the evening.



ON THE COVER: MASTER MOHAMMED ILHAN BIN MOHAMMED NASRI, THE EIGHT-MONTH-OLD SON OF NUR ELNIE AISHAH OF CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (CDIR) DIVISION.

SPECIAL THANKS TO SINGKIDS PLAYSYSTEM FOR THE USE OF THE PREMISES AT CHANGI AIRPORT, TERMINAL 3, BASEMENT 2 FOR THE PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION.

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