

ISSUE 1

CAAS PLAYS HOST TO CANSO'S FIRST ASIA-PACIFIC SAFETY SEMINAR

Safety experts from the different Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) around the world gathered at the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation's (CANSO) first Asia-Pacific Safety Seminar with a singular objective: to increase safety standards of air navigation services.

The seminar, hosted by CAAS from 23-24 November 2009 at the Singapore Aviation Academy, saw close to 30 representatives sharing best industry practices in lively round-table discussions. Chaired by Stephen Angus, Vice-Chairman of CANSO's Safety Standing Committee & General Manager, Safety and Environment, Airservices Australia, the seminar focused on key areas such as improving the Safety Management System's standard of excellence, inculcating a safety culture, and the quantifying of safety metrics.

An issue that garnered much interest was the creation of a safe and just working culture. With CANSO members managing close to 85 per cent of the world's air traffic, discussion centred around the presence of a platform such as the Safety Information Exchange Programme (SIEP), which is useful for ANSPs to share information and exchange experiences in improving operational safety. Structured like a forum, the SIEP enables the sharing of desensitised information between CANSO members so as to provide new perspectives on, and fast solutions to individual problems.

Participants left the seminar with a keener understanding of the various safety issues. Looking ahead into April 2010, there are also plans to hold a safety workshop in conjunction with CANSO's annual Asia-Pacific ANSP Conference in Thailand.