



## **Air Traffic Control Officer**

**ENG SIANG PING**

**AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER  
CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE  
8 YEARS IN AVIATION**

### **Job description**

Siang Ping works together with his team to provide safe and efficient air traffic services to international flights operating in and out of Changi Airport as well as flights flying over Singapore's Flight Information Region (FIR).

### **A day at work**

As an enroute surveillance controller, I ensure that aircraft bound for Changi Airport are separated and sequenced adequately so that there will not be unnecessary delays for landing. For flights out of Changi Airport, I plan and guide the aircraft to their assigned cruising altitudes before handing them over to neighbouring countries' Air Traffic Control (ATC) centres to continue their onward journey to their destinations. Apart from controlling aircraft in and out of Changi Airport, I also control aircraft flying through the Singapore FIR.

### **Why I love my job**

There is never a dull day at work. The nature of my job is so dynamic that no two situations are the same. I have not stopped learning since day one when I was placed "in the hot seat". Through my daily operations, I learnt to appreciate that while air traffic

control is straightforward, it is never easy.

I am proud to be an Air Traffic Control Officer as no matter how heavy or complex the traffic situation may be, we perform our duties with pride and ensure that air traffic is kept moving in a safe, orderly and expeditious manner.

### **How I got into aviation**

After graduating from NTU with a Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering, I was on the lookout for a career that was non-deskbound and at the same time, unique and exciting.

Intrigued by the promising and exciting career as an ATCO, I put my best foot forward in my application and was selected after undergoing an aptitude test and rigorous rounds of interviews. The selection process is stringent as ATCOs shoulder immense responsibilities and only those with the requisite aptitude are selected.

After being offered the position, it marked the start of a long and rigorous training as we started our journey as probationary Air Traffic Control Officers. The training started out with a Primary ATC course where we were taught theory and general aviation knowledge. After that, we spent most of our next phase of training in the simulators, honing our ATC skills and putting theory into "practice". The final phase of training saw us being deployed into the live environment, where we underwent on the job training under the watchful eyes of the instructors, controlling actual live traffic. While it was a tough period, all of us took pride in our training and worked hard towards obtaining our ATC licence.

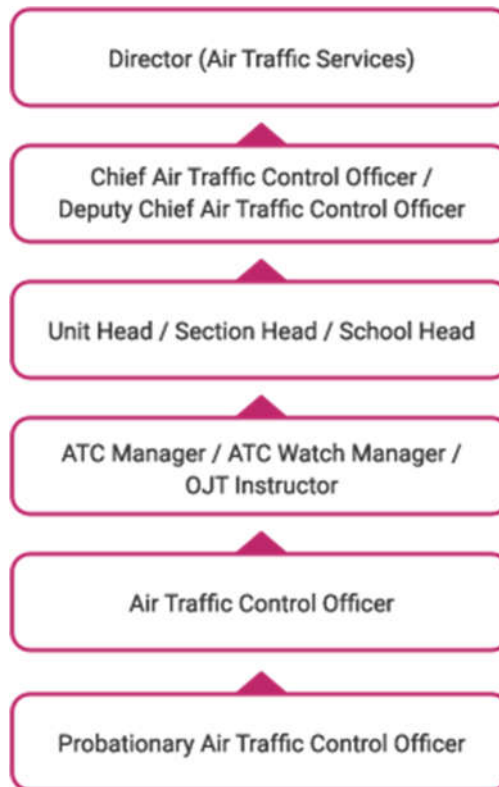
### **Personal qualities needed**

You need to remain calm and collected even in dire situations. You also need to work well in a team environment.

### **Entry requirements**

To become an ATCO with the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, you should be a Singapore Citizen, possess a local polytechnic diploma or university degree, and pass an aptitude test and a voice test.

### **Possible career progression**



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