

## ISSUE 3

# CAAS SWITCHES OFF FOR EARTH HOUR 2010

It was particularly dramatic to see sections of Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore's (CAAS) Changi control tower and parts of the surrounding airport terminals go dark as Earth Hour 2010 came round on Saturday, 27 March.

For the first time, the Air Traffic Services Division of CAAS and Changi Airport Group joined millions of participants across the globe as they turned off their lights for an hour starting 8:30pm. "This global exercise aimed to generate awareness for global warming and bring home the message that everybody can help allay the threat of climate change with small changes made in their daily lives," said Lim Lam Seng, Deputy Chief, Changi Tower, Air Traffic Services Division.

Areas such as the tower's 18th and 19th storeys and floodlights at the base were turned off, as well as decorative lighting throughout the airport. Trials were carried out beforehand to ensure that air traffic operations in the tower continued unaffected and that aircraft and passenger safety was not compromised.

The one-hour exercise accumulated substantial energy savings, equivalent to three months' electricity consumption of a typical four-room HDB flat. Earth Hour was also especially meaningful for CAAS as it came in line with the aviation industry's long-term goal of going carbon neutral by 2050. CAAS already has various CO<sub>2</sub>-reducing initiatives in place, from the adoption of best practices to the improvement of aircraft operational efficiency to the strategic shortening of air routes to prevent fuel wastage.

