

NATS TO PARTNER CAAS IN ADVANCING AIR NAVIGATION CAPABILITIES



With Changi Airport's expansion plans underway and the planned implementation of a third runway, there is a growing need for Singapore to advance its air navigation services capabilities, in preparation of the projected growth in air traffic at Changi.

As part of this initiative, CAAS has signed a 27-month contract with UK air traffic management company NATS, supported by air traffic management company Airbus Prosky, to work collaboratively on improvements in four key areas of operation:

- Air Traffic Management Operations, which will equip controllers with the skills to manage high-intensity operations on all three runways;
- Air Traffic Control Training, aimed at enhancing training practices and up-skilling controllers;
- Safety Management, which refers to work on risk management and safety assurance enhancements; and
- Analytics/Research, which will see data analysis tools and techniques used to allow CAAS to benchmark performance and measure operations effectiveness.

The contract work has commenced in March this year and will run through to 2017. In light of the contract win, NATS will expand its office in Singapore, which was newly established last year.

Recognising Singapore's growth potential in air travel, the managing director of NATS, Catherine Mason, commented: "We are honoured to get the chance to work with the CAAS on air traffic management there and look forward to working together to help with airport

expansion plans and third runway activity. Air travel in Southeast Asia is continuing to grow and Singapore is perfectly placed to drive and support these favourable economic conditions.”