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Singapore Changi Airport breaks new ground with Jewel

SINGAPORE, 5 December 2014 - Jewel Changi Airport Trustee Pte Ltd (JCAT)[\[1\]](#), a joint venture between Changi Airport Group (CAG) and CapitaMalls Asia, the shopping mall business of CapitaLand, today broke ground for the construction of Jewel Changi Airport (Jewel) – a mixed-use complex featuring attractions, retail offerings, a hotel and facilities for airport operations, which will be developed in front of Terminal 1 (T1). Strategically located in the heart of the airport, Jewel is envisaged to be a world-class lifestyle destination that will enable the Changi air hub to capture passenger mindshare, and strongly boost Singapore's appeal as a stopover point for travellers.

At the groundbreaking ceremony graced by Minister for Transport, Mr Lui Tuck Yew, guests were given a first glimpse of Jewel's unique architecture and design, as well as its exciting myriad of lifestyle offerings. The ceremony also marked the commencement of expansion works for T1, which will be carried out alongside the construction of the Jewel complex. The redevelopment of the 3.5 hectare (ha) site at T1, formerly an open-air car park, allows Changi Airport to expand the terminal's footprint, thus increasing T1's passenger handling capacity to 24 million passengers per annum[\[2\]](#).

Designed by a consortium of consultants comprising Safdie Architects led by world renowned architect Moshe Safdie, as well as Benoy and local architects RSP, Jewel features a glass and steel façade that will be a visually stunning addition to the airport landscape. Visitors will be presented with an impressive view of the complex as they travel on the roadways leading to the airport. Beneath its distinctive façade, Jewel will be the first in Singapore to seamlessly integrate a refreshing environment of lush greenery amid other attractions and facilities within the same building. The complex – scheduled for completion by end of 2018 – will have five storeys above ground and five basement storeys, covering a total gross floor area of about 134,000 square metres (sqm).

Forest Valley and Gateway Gardens

In line with Singapore's reputation as a garden city, Jewel will house one of the largest indoor collections of plants in Singapore – with about 22,000sqm of space dedicated to landscaping throughout the complex[\[3\]](#). One of Jewel's centrepiece attractions will be the *Forest Valley*, a huge five-storey garden filled with thousands of trees, plants, ferns and shrubs. Visitors can immerse themselves in the beauty of nature within this idyllic valley of verdant landscaping and waterfalls, and can even take a hike up the valley in air-conditioned comfort.

There will be four different *Gateway Gardens* located at the complex, where every garden will feature unique landscaping elements. For instance, the *North Gateway Garden*, which will be seamlessly connected to the T1 Arrival Hall, will retain a nostalgic piece of T1's heritage through landscaping features made from the recycled trunks of raintrees from the former open-air car park.

The other centrepiece of Jewel will be the breathtaking 40-metre high *Rain*

Vortex, expected to be the world's tallest indoor waterfall. Located at the central core of the complex, this majestic spectacle will captivate visitors with its magnificent water display. Come night fall, the *Rain Vortex* will transform into an enchanting Light and Sound show with special lighting effects.

A playground for everyone

Adding to the existing recreational spaces at Changi Airport that have been popular with Singaporeans, the top level of Jewel will feature park space of approximately 13,000sqm in size, comprising gardens, walking trails, playgrounds and dining outlets. *Canopy Park*, with engaging and fun play facilities, is designed to be a wonderland for both the young and old. In the surrounding area, there will be food and beverage outlets where visitors will be able to enjoy al fresco-like dining while admiring views of the Forest Valley, in cool comfort throughout the day.

Within Jewel, there will be a wide range of retail offerings which will appeal to shopaholics from around the world. The retail mix is envisaged to include exciting new-to-Singapore concepts, top international brands, as well as home-grown names. The integration of world-class retail brands and unique dining concepts with indoor gardens and leisure attractions will provide visitors with a myriad of experiences all under one roof – making Jewel a one-of-a-kind lifestyle destination for both local residents and tourists.

Strengthening the Changi air hub

To strengthen Changi Airport's appeal as a transit hub, there will be facilities in Jewel to enhance passengers' journey. The complex will house an integrated multi-modal transport lounge offering dedicated services for fly-cruise and fly-coach passengers, such as ticketing, issuance of boarding passes and baggage transfer services. These will allow Changi to leverage new opportunities such as the growth of Singapore as a regional cruise centre. In addition, early check-in facilities in Jewel will enable passengers to check-in for their flights and deposit their luggage ahead of the regular check-in timings - providing them with added convenience.

To widen the range of accommodation options available at the airport, Jewel will offer its own hotel with approximately 130 rooms, operated by YOTEL – an international hotel brand with an established presence in Europe and the

United States of America. This adds to the range of lifestyle offerings at Jewel, and provides an additional choice of accommodation for transiting travellers.

The expansion of T1

As passenger traffic increases, there is a need for CAG to expand T1's handling capacity, to uphold the passenger experience, as well as provide further room for airlines' growth at the terminal. With the redevelopment of the open-air car park, CAG will extend the footprint of the terminal building into the space of the site, adding more than 70% to the floor area of the arrival and baggage claim halls.

The expanded T1 Arrival Hall will be seamlessly integrated with Level 1 of Jewel while the Baggage Claim Hall will also see more circulation space and the installation of additional baggage belts, operated by an upgraded baggage handling system. At the T1 Departure Hall, a revamp of the check-in counters will take place, with the incorporation of self-service kiosks. This will improve efficiency as well as optimise the space available.

In addition, improved ground transport facilities will be developed for T1 to cater to increasing visitorship. A second departure drop-off bay will be constructed, doubling the number of vehicular lanes for drivers to drop off passengers. The length of the arrival pick-up bay will also be extended by 50%.

A much larger basement car park – spanning five levels with 2,500 parking spaces – will be built as part of the Jewel complex, providing T1 users with sheltered parking directly connected to the terminal. Facilities for taxis and coaches, such as the taxi waiting area, taxi pick-up bays and coach stand, will also be expanded.

Currently, only Terminals 2 and 3 are directly linked to the Changi Airport Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) station. New pedestrian linkages will be constructed connecting T1 and Jewel to the MRT station, improving inter-terminal connectivity and accessibility.

The start of an exciting journey

Mr Lee Seow Hiang, CAG's Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Jewel Changi Airport Devt Pte. Ltd (JCAD)[\[4\]](#) said: "An important hallmark of Changi Airport's growth over the past thirty-odd years has been continual change and innovation. In charting the airport's future, this spirit continues to underpin our strategy. Faced with intensifying competition, we challenged ourselves to rethink what an airport can be – not just as a gateway for flights, but as a tourism destination on its own.

"Today's groundbreaking ceremony marks only the beginning of this exciting journey. Over the next few years, we will work hard with our designers and contractors to execute our vision and realise our aspirations for Jewel. We look forward to presenting, in four year's time, an iconic, world-class destination that both Singaporeans and our passengers from all over the world will enjoy, bringing Changi Airport to its next level of growth."

Mr Philip Yim, Chief Executive Officer of JCAD said: "We are delighted to mark a new milestone in the development of Jewel Changi Airport. Apart from distinctive design, Jewel will break new ground with its unique mix of attractions, retail and airport facilities, integrated in a way like never before to create a slew of different experiences in a single visit.

"Located at the doorstep of the award-winning Changi Airport, it will be a place where Singapore and the World meet. For international travellers, Jewel will be an exciting tourist destination. For Singaporeans, it will be a playground near home where they can share many happy moments with their loved ones. For our retail partners, the opportunity to reach out to the diverse mix of passengers at a major air hub presents exciting prospects," added Mr Yim.

The construction of Jewel and the expansion of T1 will be undertaken by a construction joint venture formed by Woh Hup and Obayashi Singapore. Works will commence following the groundbreaking ceremony.

[\[1\]](#) Jewel Changi Airport Trustee Pte Ltd, the trustee-manager of Jewel Changi Airport Trust, is formed between Changi Airport Group (CAG) and CapitaMalls Asia (CMA), the shopping mall business of the CapitaLand Group. CAG is a 51% shareholder and unitholder of the joint venture entities while CMA owns the remaining 49%.

[\[2\]](#) This is 35% more than the 17.7 million passengers handled at T1 in 2013.

[3] Comparable to the combined space of the two indoor Conservatories at Gardens by the Bay.

[4] JCAD is the development and property manager of Jewel.

About Jewel Changi Airport Trustee (www.jewelchangiairport.com)

Jewel Changi Airport Trust is formed between Changi Airport Group (CAG) and CapitaMalls Asia (CMA), the shopping mall business of CapitaLand, to jointly own Jewel Changi Airport (Jewel). The other two joint venture companies are Jewel Changi Airport Trustee Pte. Ltd., the trustee-manager of Jewel Changi Airport Trust, and Jewel Changi Airport Devt Pte. Ltd., the development and property manager of Jewel. CAG is the majority 51% unitholder and shareholder of the joint venture trust and companies, while CMA owns the remaining 49%.

To be built on the surface car park site fronting Terminal 1, Jewel will be a world-class lifestyle destination in Singapore when it opens at Changi Airport. At approximately 134,000sqm in size, Jewel will offer a range of facilities for airport operations, indoor gardens and leisure attractions, retail offerings and hotel facilities, all under one roof. Designed by world renowned architect Moshe Safdie, Jewel will feature a distinctive dome-shaped facade made of glass and steel, making this an iconic landmark in Changi Airport's landscape. Come end 2018, Jewel will be a signature destination that will add to Changi Airport's appeal as one of the world's leading air hubs.

About Changi Airport Group (www.changiairportgroup.com)

Changi Airport Group (Singapore) Pte Ltd (CAG) was formed on 16 June 2009 and the corporatisation of Singapore Changi Airport (IATA: SIN, ICAO: WSSS) followed on 1 July 2009. As the company managing Changi Airport, CAG undertakes key functions focusing on airport operations and management, air hub development, commercial activities and airport emergency services. CAG also manages Seletar Airport (IATA: XSP, ICAO: WSSL) and through its subsidiary Changi Airports International, invests in and manages foreign airports.

Changi Airport (www.changiairport.com) is the world's sixth busiest airport for international traffic. It served a record 53.7 million passengers from around the globe in 2013. More than 350 retail stores and 120 F&B outlets are situated across three terminals to cater to passengers and visitors. With over 100 airlines providing connectivity to 300 cities worldwide, Changi Airport handles about 6,400 flights every week, or about one every 90 seconds.