

21 February 2018

### **From the President's Desk - 1/2018**

Dear Members,

This year is special for AAIS as we mark our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. From our founding in a time of adversity, the Association has grown from strength to strength. Today, we are in good health and as we celebrate important milestones, we want to spend time gazing into the crystal ball and preparing ourselves as an industry, to be ready for the future.

#### **An Excellent Start to 2018**

2 The year kicked-off with an exclusive members-only preview of the Aerospace Industry Transformation Map (ITM) at EDB's offices on 5 January 2018. Senior representatives from some 50 member companies gathered to understand the key thrusts of the ITM and give feedback on its implementation. The ITM was developed by government agencies with our collective inputs, and is aimed at renewing our industry's competitiveness and growth for the long term. It is intended as an evolving plan providing directional guidance to both industry and government.

3 A fortnight later on 17 January 2018, Minister S Iswaran officially launched the Aerospace ITM and kicked off our 15th year anniversary at the JTC Aerospace Networking Night. The evening's celebrations also marked the 10<sup>th</sup> year of Seletar Aerospace Park, since the start of its construction. During the event, AAIS represented industry to sign an MoU to collaborate with the five polytechnics, ITE and JTC on a new series of student outreach initiatives. These initiatives are expected to benefit some 1,500 students from the aerospace engineering courses annually. The first project will be the inaugural Aerospace Day @ SAP this April.

4 It was then full-steam ahead for the Association as we entered an exciting week at Singapore Airshow 2018. The AAIS team built and managed the Singapore Pavilion, which had 36 exhibiting organisations altogether, including 20 first-time exhibitors and 9 SMEs/start-ups featured at our SME pavilion. To deliver more value to our members and exhibitors, AAIS organised 10 different programmes all within the same week! This included networking sessions with industry delegations from Australia, Canada and the US, as well as the first of our quarterly HOST networking sessions, held on-site at the JTC booth in the Singapore Pavilion. We also co-organised a 'Suppliers' Summit' with UTC and EDB, the 'Digital Solutions for MRO' seminar with JTC and the 'Emerging Technologies Forum' together with GIFAS, supported by Experia Events. Throughout the course of the week, we arranged over 100 B2B meetings for our members and exhibitors, and brought more than 1,000 students to visit the Airshow under our Aerospace Industry Induction Programme. AAIS capped off the week with a learning journey to the Advanced Remanufacturing Technology Centre (ARTC).

5 In the midst of our business activities, I am pleased that as a community, we have also not forgotten the needy in our society. On Valentine's Day, more than 30 volunteers from our member companies hosted 120 elderly from four homes to an enjoyable Chinese New Year lunch at the Imperial Court restaurant at The Grassroot's Club. We were treated to nostalgic English, Mandarin, Cantonese and Hokkien songs by the talented MusicMix band and singers.

#### Priorities for 2018

6 The Association looks forward to an exciting year ahead. In the spirit of digital transformation, AAIS has rolled out its new online Asia-Pacific Aviation Directory ([www.aviationdirectory.biz](http://www.aviationdirectory.biz)), or APAD for short. This complements our current print directories and aims to connect international buyers with suppliers and service providers from Singapore and beyond. We also plan to facilitate real-world B2B events under the APAD brand, to complement the online service. Our corporate website ([www.aais.org.sg](http://www.aais.org.sg)) has also been upgraded to enhance the Association's engagement with members and the wider aerospace community.

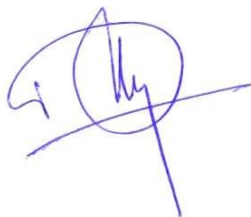
7 Even as we embark on new initiatives, we will continue with the programmes we started last year. Digital transformation remains a high priority as we facilitate ITM implementation by our members. We continue to partner with Siemens, to visit members who are seeking insights for planning their digitalisation roadmap. We will also continue to plan learning journeys to Rockwell Automation, ARTC and others. Our support for SMEs will be developed further. In addition to the services we offer to all members, we actively support SMEs and start-ups via our Panel of Experts, supplier conferences and the 'Runway21' serviced office in Seletar.

#### Upcoming events

8 AAIS continues to have an active social calendar. Sign up your team for the annual Futsal Tournament on 17 March 2018 ([www.aais.org.sg/event/futsal](http://www.aais.org.sg/event/futsal)). Look out also for updates on the annual Bowling Tournament in July 2018, and the AeroPartners Golf Tournament on 17 August 2018. On the business side, we will be going to Hanoi for MRO East Asia from 6 to 9 March 2018. Please contact the secretariat if you are planning to attend. We are also making plans for seminars on Additive Manufacturing for Aerospace, and a Singapore Aerospace innovation showcase to be unveiled in the fourth quarter of the year. Look out for updates in our Association e-newsletters or website.

9 As we celebrate the arrival of Spring and a season of new beginnings, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy Lunar New Year! May the year ahead bring you prosperity, abundance, health and joy.

Yours sincerely,



Philip Quek  
President