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## **From the President's Desk - 2/2018**

Dear Members,

1 In my last letter dated February 2018, I touched on our priorities for the year, with an emphasis on being future-ready and facilitating industry transformation. This is a long journey, but one we all begin with a first step.

### **Gearing up for the future**

2 At the association, we started the digitalisation of our industry directories, with the launch of a new product ([www.aviationdirectory.biz](http://www.aviationdirectory.biz)) to complement the printed directories and are gradually adding new advertisers from across the region and promoting it at international platforms. We have also given our corporate website ([www.aais.org.sg](http://www.aais.org.sg)) a new look, which has proven to be a useful tool for projecting our brand, publicising our activities and registering participants.

3 We are exploring the use of business analytics to better understand your needs and improve our membership services. This may take some time to see results, but I am delighted to say that the AAIS team has been extremely open in evaluating new and innovative approaches to reach out to our members.

### **Industry Transformation**

4 Since the announcement of the Aerospace Transformation Map in January 2018, we have been focused on facilitating members in their digitalisation journey. We have launched our Digitalisation Programme to support members from creating awareness to implementation. I am grateful to our partners for making this possible.

5 Some 30 companies joined our Learning Journeys to Rockwell Automation's smart factory, to see for themselves the benefits of digitalisation and Industry 4.0. In addition, EDB has offered us funded Singapore Smart Industry Readiness Index assessments by TUV Sud. This is essentially a digitalisation readiness "health check", for participating members to prioritise areas to work on. Our partner, Siemens, has also kindly enhanced its support under our MOU. Their assistance now includes a bespoke workshop to assist individual members in planning their digitalisation roadmap. Do sign up with our Business Planning Executive, Ms Liza Hamid ([liza@aais.org.sg](mailto:liza@aais.org.sg)), if you have not yet availed yourself of this Digitalisation Programme.

6 We are also aware that many aerospace companies are exploring the potential that Additive Manufacturing (AM) holds for revolutionising certain segments of the manufacturing supply chain

and component repairs. We held an AM conference and a workshop last year to build greater understanding of this topic. We have worked with the National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Cluster (NAMIC) this year on a Joint Industry Programme (JIP). Some 50 participants registered for our roundtable on 24 July 2018 to offer their inputs on the design of the JIP and associated training programmes. More will be revealed at our upcoming 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala dinner.

#### Celebrating our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary

7 I am pleased that the new Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr Chan Chun Sing, has agreed to be the guest-of-honour at our 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner on 21 September 2018 at Singapore Expo. It not only signals the importance of the Aerospace industry to Singapore, but is a wonderful opportunity for us to get to know him better and the priorities of his ministry. We will also share with him the forward-looking approach our industry takes, to prepare ourselves for the strong growth in the Asia-Pacific aviation market. I hope you have already booked your dinner seats or even chosen to sponsor the dinner. I look forward to your participation and support.

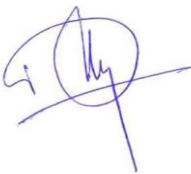
8 As is usual on such occasions, we will be recognising important individuals and companies who have made significant contributions to the industry. Besides celebrating the sustained support of our founding (Charter) members, our selection panel has also chosen 2 distinguished individuals to recognise for their contributions over the last decade. All will be revealed at the dinner.

#### Building on the past, exploring new ideas

9 Even as we embark on new initiatives, we build on our work from the preceding year. 'Runway21', our business incubation initiative, has crossed its one-year mark now with 5 serviced office occupants from Denmark, Indonesia, Malaysia, China and of course, Singapore. Precision Aviation Group started with us and has since grown to lease its own facility in JTC Aviation Two. Our Panel of Experts has also expanded to 6 honorary members. These industry veterans are proving invaluable - projecting AAIS' thought leadership at seminars and conferences, advising our members and Runway21 occupants, and giving inputs to our secretariat on the design of our programmes.

10 We are continuing to explore other interesting new ideas for AAIS, and I will share more about these at the upcoming AGM – 5 pm, 21 September 2018 at Singapore Expo. In the meantime, please continue to support us with your participation and ideas.

Yours sincerely,



Philip Quek  
President