

For immediate release

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## **HAESL celebrates the official opening of its US\$50m Component Repair Centre of Excellence**

Hong Kong Aero Engine Services Limited (HAESL) today celebrated the official opening of its Component Repair Centre of Excellence – Phase V – a 13,500 square metre expansion to its existing engine repair and overhaul facility.

HAESL has invested US\$ 50 million in the new Phase V expansion to meet the rapid growth in worldwide demand for component repair capability. This is in response to the predicted growth in the aviation industry over the next decade and beyond. It will also expand Hong Kong's capabilities as a regional aviation hub to serve the fast-growing aviation market in China.

Mr Christopher Pratt, Chairman of Swire Pacific Limited and Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company Limited (HAECO), was guest of honour at the ceremony and formally opened the facility. Mr Augustus Tang, Chief Executive Officer of HAECO and Mr Tony Wood, Chairman of HAESL and President Gas Turbine Services, Rolls-Royce plc jointly officiated the event, which was attended by HAESL staff and over 100 guests.

Mr Pratt said, "I am very pleased to open this new facility, which marks a significant enhancement to Hong Kong's offering as a global service centre for the aerospace engineering industry and reinforces its position as an aviation hub for the Asia Pacific region."

Mr Wood said, "We are delighted to celebrate this significant milestone with our partners. The new facility represents a major investment in Hong Kong and allows us to deliver the highest quality repair and maintenance services to our customers. HAESL has provided airlines with an outstanding service for almost 15 years and will continue to do so in the future."

Mr Tim Blackburn, HAESL's Director & General Manager said, "This expansion will enable HAESL to enhance significantly our services and set world-leading standards as a global Centre of Excellence for component repair. This new, state-of-the-art facility, and the expansion of our highly-skilled workforce, will ideally position us to take advantage of a period of unparalleled growth for the aviation industry in Asia and beyond."

HAESL, a joint venture between HAECO, Rolls-Royce and SIA Engineering Company, will mark several other major milestones in 2011, as the business celebrates 15 years of successful operations with its expansion to employ over 1,000 staff and completes the overhaul of its 2,500th aero engine.

The new facility expands HAESL's capacity and enhances its service to customers in terms of productivity and turnaround time. The expansion features five of HAESL's six Rolls-Royce Global Repair Services' Centres of Excellence (CoE) for component repair, all under one roof. At the same time, HAESL has also reorganised and expanded Phase II, an existing 20,000 square metre component repair facility.



Guest of Honour Mr Christopher Pratt, Chairman of Swire Pacific Limited and HAECO unveil the plaque commemorating opening of HAESL's Phase V – Component Repair Centre of Excellence.



Mr Christopher Pratt, Chairman of Swire Pacific Limited and HAECO, Mr Augustus Tang, Chief Executive Officer of HAECO, Mr Tony Wood, Chairman of HAESL and President Gas Turbine Services, Rolls-Royce plc and other guests attended the opening ceremony.

# *Media information*



## **About Hong Kong Aero Engine Services Limited (HAESL)**

Hong Kong Aero Engine Services Limited (HAESL) provides world-class aero engine and component repair services to many of the world's most respected airlines that have chosen Rolls-Royce RB211 and Trent engines to power their fleet of Airbus and Boeing Aircraft.

HAESL is a joint venture between Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company Limited (HAECO) (45%), Rolls-Royce (45%) and SIA Engineering Company (10%), HAESL combines the strength and experience of two of Asia's most successful aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul companies with a world-leading name in the development and manufacture of gas turbine engines.

HAESL started operations in 1997, initially taking over HAECO's own engine overhaul operations, and is now a leading repair and overhaul facility for Rolls-Royce's range of RB211 and Trent aero engines. Located at Tseung Kwan O, in Hong Kong's New Territories, HAESL employs over 980 staff and operates from an advanced US\$150 million facility.

HAESL is also equipped with one of the largest test cells in Asia – capable of testing engines generating up to 130,000 pounds of thrust.

The company has significant component repair capability on components from the engines that it overhauls – and has developed six Centres of Excellence (CoE) supporting fan blade, turbine blade, HP/IP bearing support, honeycomb, seal fin and engine mount repairs on components from Rolls-Royce engines.

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## HAESL Celebrates the Official Opening of its US\$50m Component Repair Centre of Excellence

### Facts and Figures

<b>Major milestones</b>	<p><b>15 years of operation</b> since 1997</p> <p>Total number of engines overhauled: 2,520 engines. <b>Completed overhaul of 2,500 engine in April 2011</b></p> <p><b>Currently employs 980 people, which will rise to more than 1,000 in 2011</b></p>
<b>Investing in World Class Facilities</b>	<p><b>Investment for Phase V: US\$50 million</b></p> <p>Located in Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate, New Territories, Hong Kong</p> <p>Opening of Phase V increases floor space by 13,500 sqm, or 35%, to a total of 51,200 sqm floor space in HAESL</p> <p>HAESL has one of the most comprehensive in-house component repair capability in the Rolls-Royce Gas Turbine Services network</p>
<b>Investing in World Class People</b>	<p><b>The Phase V expansion creates 100 new jobs. In 2012-13, a further 250 new staff will be recruited.</b></p> <p><b>Developing leaders of the future</b> HAESL is a founding member of the Hong Kong Innovation &amp; Technology Commission Scholarship Award Scheme, launched May 2011</p> <p>HAESL actively participated in the introduction of the new aircraft engineering discipline of the Hong Kong Institute of Engineers in 2009. Twelve HAESL employees are founding members</p>

### **Partners in education**

HAESL partners with many institutes, colleges and universities to develop aerospace engineering training programmes in Hong Kong. Partners include:

Hong Kong Vocational Training Council (VTC)

Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE) and

Hong Kong Polytechnic University

**A 16-week training programme jointly developed by HAESL and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University** have been training skilled machinists for employment in HAESL

### **Expansion of trainee programmes**

HAESL has run trainee programmes at different education levels since its inception 15 years ago

Over 60% of direct staff in HAESL have started their careers in one of the trainee programmes

On average, a newly employed trainee will take 3 years to reach approval status

### **Commitment to Engineering Excellence**

HAESL features six Centres of Excellence for Component Repair include turbine blade, fan blade, honeycomb, bearing support, seal fin and engine mount repairs. These are some of the highest value and most complex processes in the aero engine repair and overhaul business

HAESL features six of 25 Rolls-Royce Global Repair Services' Centres of Excellence. Five of these six are also located in Phase V