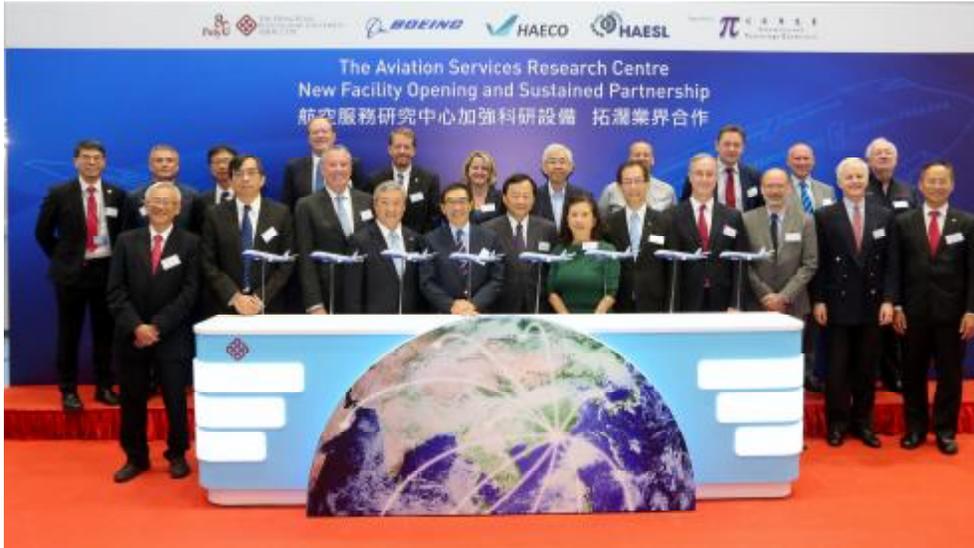


ASRC New Facility Opening Ceremony



With the new facility opening ceremony of the Aviation Services Research Centre (ASRC) being held on 26 September at the HKPolyU, aviation technology development in Hong Kong has reached another milestone. Guests including Mr. Dennis Floyd, Vice President of Strategy from Boeing Global Services, Mr. Augustus Tang, Chief Executive Officer from HAECO and Mr. Angus Barclay, HAESL Director and General Manager, and representatives from all over the world gathered around to celebrate the opening of the new 1,500-square-metre facility. HAESL was thanked for arranging the donation of an LP compressor fan assembly.

The five-year renewal agreement between Boeing and the ASRC facilitates the partnership and collaborative effort from both parties. Ir. Mark Hayman, Chief Executive Officer of the ASRC, gave a presentation describing the HK\$35-million investment made on new equipment to support research and development projects. The ceremony finished with a tour of the ASRC facility and project demonstrations. The new facility and Boeing's commitment to the ASRC for a further five years serves as a paragon of academia-industry collaboration, bringing MRO technology development to a higher level of excellence.



HAESL donates a fan blade set to the ASRC

HAESL, as a member of the technical committee, has been cooperating with ASRC to conduct researches on enhancing operation ability for the past few years. To showcase the new capability as well as the progress of the current projects, we, along with Mr. Richard Harcourt, the Executive Vice President (EVP) Civil Operations were invited to the demonstration session the day before the ceremony.



The demonstration started with a small yet efficient robot. Although it is still a long way to go for what you might see on movies com, robots have already provided a solution for automation in various industries. With its feature of small parts assembly, a modern robot is capable to interact with operators to perform repetitive tasks with its sensitive force control feedback.



Automation solution using robot



Hand-free head mounted tablet

Another new technology is the hand-free head mounted tablet designed for skilled technicians and engineers in the field service. Operators can receive instructions or access the latest vision of the manual through Wi-Fi or Bluetooth using voice command.

The third technology is related to a computer that can see and process the information. With the help of robot and 3D camera, computer vision can be used on identifying damages and removing defects.



Defect identification using robot and 3D camera

These are just a glimpse of how we pursue to use technology to remain competitive in a challenging market. The cooperation between HAESL and ASRC is an excellent example of research and innovation collaboration between academia and industry.