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## **ROHR AERO BREAKS NEW GROUND WITH LARGEST AUTOCLAVE FACILITY IN ASIA**

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When completed in 2003, RASA's US\$13.5 million facility will boost in-house capabilities and reduce lead time for repairing engine nacelles, cowlings and thrust reversers

SINGAPORE – 11 July 2002 – Rohr Aero Services–Asia (RASA), a joint venture between mainboard-listed SIA Engineering Company Limited and Goodrich Aerostructures Group, will build a 22,000 square-metre facility costing US\$13.5 million on JTC-leased land at Changi North Crescent.

To be completed in September 2003, RASA's new two-storey building will be more than twice the size of its present facility in the Loyang aerospace hub and will be equipped with the largest 'Autoclave' heat-treatment machine in Asia. This 'Autoclave' will be able to handle large pieces of composite structures such as the large nacelles of new-generation engines, which otherwise would have to be sent all the way to the United States for repair. With this 'Autoclave' equipment in Singapore, airlines in Asia-Pacific will benefit significantly from savings in repair costs and turnaround time.

SIA Engineering Company's Chief Executive Officer Mr William Tan said: "This new facility will expand RASA's capacity and capabilities as well as reinforce its position as a leading regional player for nacelle and thrust reverser services. We are confident that RASA will benefit from the growing market for the repair and overhaul of high-technology composite structures which are increasingly prevalent in new-generation aircraft such as the B777 and A340."

"As a testimony of our confidence in RASA's growth prospects as well as our strategic partnership with Goodrich, we increased our stake in RASA to 40% last month. RASA is one of the 16 joint ventures that we have forged with leading original equipment manufacturers. Leveraging on this, we are able to substantially reduce the turnaround times of our aircraft maintenance checks," Mr Tan added.

RASA, incorporated in Singapore in 1995, operates a 9,000 square-metre facility in Singapore's Loyang aerospace hub. The company performs aerostructure repair and overhaul for more than 40

airlines in the Asia-Pacific region such as Singapore Airlines, Japan Airlines, Federal Express and Cathay Pacific Airways.

### **About SIA Engineering Company**

SIA Engineering Company is a major provider of aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services in Asia-Pacific. The Company has a client base of more than 80 international carriers and aerospace equipment manufacturers. It provides line maintenance services at Singapore Changi Airport for about 220 flights daily, as well as airframe and component overhaul on some of the most advanced and widely used commercial aircraft in the world.

16 joint ventures with original equipment manufacturers and airlines in Singapore, Ireland, China, Hongkong and Taiwan increase the depth and breadth of the Company's comprehensive service offerings. The combined revenue of these joint ventures is approximately \$1.0 billion for the first half of FY2002/03, with 71% coming from non-Singapore Airlines customers. Taking into account SIA Engineering Company's equity holding in its joint ventures, non-SIA customers contributed approximately 33% of SIA Engineering Group's business.

SIA Engineering Company has approvals from 23 national aviation regulatory authorities to provide MRO services for aircraft registered in the United States of America, major European countries and Japan, among others.

### **About Rohr Aero Services – Asia**

RASA is an FAA & JAA certified repair station specialising in the maintenance, repair and overhaul of nacelle systems which includes the inlet cowl, fan cowl, thrust reverser, exhaust nozzle and plug. RASA's highly-trained and experienced engineering team is capable of performing sheetmetal, metal bond, honeycomb and composite repairs.

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