

Views from China Aircraft Services Limited on the Three-runway System at the Hong Kong International Airport

China Aircraft Services Limited (CASL) founded in 1995 with employees over 1,200 is one of the major aircraft maintenance companies in Hong Kong. CASL offers a full range of aircraft maintenance services for over 70 international airlines at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA). CASL is committed to deliver the highest quality of airport services including aircraft maintenance as well as cabin services and ground support equipment. CASL supports the Three-runway System at HKIA, due to the following reasons.

1. Capacity Constraints

As one of the world's busiest airports, HKIA served 68.5 million passengers, handled 4.38 million tonnes of cargo and accommodated 406,000 air traffic movements in 2015. However, the existing two-runway system is expected to reach its maximum practical capacity in coming couple of years that cannot cater the foreseeable growing demand in aviation industry and airport usage. This will lead to negative impacts for tourism, logistics and aviation industries, even for the overall competitiveness of Hong Kong. Therefore, the development of the Three-runway System is in urgent need and a critical solution to ease the capacity.

2. Growing Competition

Thanks to the privileged geographic location, HKIA has been recoginsed as one of the international aviation hubs. HKIA connects to half of the world's population within five flying hours. However, our nearby airports, e.g. Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Shenzhen Bao'an Airport, Seoul Incheon Airport, which are expanding actively, have brought increasing challenges to HKIA. It requires an airport with greater capacity and higher standard in Hong Kong. Remain unchanged is not an option for the future of HKIA. CASL believes that the Three-runway System of HKIA will ensure Hong Kong to maintain its edge to be the aviation centre in the long run and strengthen its competitiveness.

3. Economic Benefits

HKIA has generated excessive economic value for Hong Kong and supports the sustainable development of the Four Pillar Industries, i.e. trading and logistics, financial services, producer and professional services, and tourism. Numerous direct and indirect job opportunities have also been created. A new well-planned runway will not only be a solution for increasing the capacity, but will also bring economic benefits to aviation industry in Hong Kong. Aviation service providers, including aircraft maintenance, airlines, ground handling services, etc. will be benefited from the expansion. Prosperities for both aviation industry and the whole economy of Hong Kong will definitely be achieved as a result of the Three-runway System.

4. Efforts on Environmental Conservation

A comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment was conducted to study the potential environmental impact of the Three-runway System, which also suggested different mitigation measures to minimize these impacts. CASL well acknowledges the concerns on the environmental impacts of the project. Nonetheless, we believe that appropriate airport expansion plan should be implemented to reinforce Hong Kong's position as an international and regional aviation centre. The whole Hong Kong aviation industry should work closely to tackle the environmental issues, rather than holding back from further development. As a part of Hong Kong aviation industry, CASL is committed to maintain the environmental sustainability by adopting green policies and practices across the company.

Hong Kong is well-known for its professionalism and efficiency. Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) services in Hong Kong also represent these core values. MRO companies, such as CASL, operate 24 hours to deliver valued services to airline operators from all over the world. We strive to develop a world-class position for MRO services. Needs for MRO services will largely increase due to the Three-runway System. Promising

future of MRO companies will create a large amount of job opportunities for different levels of workforce.

CASL welcomes the Three-runway System. We hope that the development of the Three-runway System will reach an all-win balancing situation in the aspects of the overall economy, environmental protection, and the aviation industry development in Hong Kong. This can secure Hong Kong's leading role in the airline passenger transportation, aviation logistics and aircraft engineering business, and lay a solid foundation strives for Hong Kong's long-term development.

China Aircraft Services Limited

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