Media Release
5 February 2026

SAESL Strengthens Talent Development with Two MoUs to Build Future-Ready Engine MRO Workforce

- SAESL signs two talent development MoUs at Singapore Airshow 2026
- Establish a dedicated Training Academy to accelerate training for the future skills of MRO in SAESL
- Partnership with Singapore Polytechnic to strengthen aerospace talent pipeline

Singapore Aero Engine Services Limited (SAESL) announced that two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) will be signed today at the Singapore Airshow 2026, marking a significant step in strengthening its end-to-end talent development strategy to support long-term growth in engine maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO).

The MoUs, one with the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) and the other with Singapore Polytechnic (SP), reflect SAESL's holistic approach to workforce development — spanning early talent pipeline building, applied industry learning, and accelerated in-house capability development through a new SAESL Training Academy.

The two MoUs build on SAESL's broader S$242 million expansion and transformation programme, which is aimed at strengthening operational capacity, modernising facilities and capabilities, and ensuring sustainable long-term growth. The new partnerships are designed to deepen SAESL's in-house technical expertise while ensuring a sustainable talent pipeline to support future engine MRO demand.

Building in-house capability through SAESL's Training Academy

Under the MoU with EDB, SAESL will explore developing a Training Academy designed initially for its workforce, adopting a training model that will support SAESL's growth plans as it scales capacity to meet Rolls-Royce's ambition to significantly increase their global MRO capacity by 2030.

Over the next five years, SAESL will be hiring more than 1000 technicians to support its long-term engine deliveries projection.

The initiative also responds to a broader industry-wide challenge of a tightening aerospace MRO talent pipeline, driven by fleet growth and increasing engine complexity. By investing in accelerated, structured training, SAESL aims to help close this skills gap in the future. It also ensures a steady pipeline of job-ready technicians through the

development of transferable skills to support both its own expansion and the broader aviation industry.

Once operational, the Academy is expected to significantly increase hands-on engine maintenance capacity and higher technicians' capability levels.

"SAESL's new Training Academy is both timely and important. The Academy will bolster our local workforce to support the robust growth of Singapore's aerospace industry. SAESL will also forge ecosystem partnerships to develop an industry-ready talent pipeline with deep technical expertise. This will ensure long-term competitiveness of the industry and build strong career pathways." said Zheng Jingxin, Vice President and Head of Mobility, EDB.

Strengthening the upstream talent pipeline with Singapore Polytechnic

SAESL will be signing an MoU with SP, establishing a strategic framework for longer-term collaboration focused on strengthening the upstream talent pipeline for aerospace MRO.

The partnership aims to strengthen alignment between SP's curriculum and real-world MRO requirements, provide early industry exposure for students, and create applied learning opportunities through industry-based projects. Planned initiatives include industry-supported elective modules related to engine MRO, joint final-year projects addressing operational and innovation challenges, and opportunities for student and staff engagement with live MRO environments.

As part of the collaboration, SP's School of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering is expected to be accredited as an authorised training partner for SAESL, supporting qualification, recurrency and upskilling training. The partnership will leverage SP's continuing education and training (CET) and pre-employment training (PET) programmes, as well as its specialised laboratories and facilities, to extend SAESL's training capacity while maintaining strong industry relevance.

This MoU sets the foundation for progressive initiatives to be rolled out as part of SAESL's longer-term workforce and skills transformation roadmap, reinforcing the company's commitment to building a sustainable, future-ready talent pipeline for advanced and Industry 4.0-enabled MRO.

Mr Toh Ser Khoon, Senior Director (Engineering) of Singapore Polytechnic, said, "This partnership with SAESL and SP enables us to embed real-world aerospace operations into our curriculum, giving learners authentic, hands-on experiences beyond the classroom. By strengthening the link between classroom learning and applied engine MRO practice, we are engineering a workforce with the confidence and technical precision to drive Singapore's evolving aerospace sector. We aim to deliver an education that prepares students to be industry ready."

"These two partnerships are critical to how SAESL is scaling for the next phase of growth," said Chris Pattinson, Chief Executive Officer, SAESL. "By accelerating in-house capability

through our Training Academy with EDB's support, and strengthening the talent pipeline upstream with SP, we are building the skilled workforce required to increase capacity, sustain operational excellence and meet rising global demand for engine MRO services."

Together, the two MoUs underscore SAESL's commitment to investing in people and skills as a strategic enabler of sustainable growth, reinforcing its position as a leading engine MRO provider and a key contributor to Singapore's aerospace ecosystem.

-END-

For further information, contact:

Media
Teo Yi Long,
yilong.teo@saesl.com.sg,
91167535

Linda Geng,
linda.geng@saesl.com.sg,
81181319

About Singapore Aero Engine Services Private Limited (SAESL)
Singapore Aero Engine Services Private Limited (SAESL) is a joint venture company between Rolls-Royce and SIA Engineering Company Limited (SIAEC). The company first started operations in 2001 and has since become a market leader for both engine overhaul and component repair services. As a result of the sustained business growth, SAESL has continued to expand its facilities and develop new capabilities for both its engine overhaul and component repair businesses. The Engine Overhaul business has the broadest capability in the Trent network to service Trent 900, all variants of Trent 1000, Trent 7000 and Trent XWB. The Engine Overhaul business has the capacity to repair and overhaul over 300 Trent engines per year and it is equipped with a state-of-the-art Engine Test Facility that supports our best-in-class engine turnaround times.

For more information on SAESL, please visit https://www.saesl.com.sg/.