

Media Release
23 September 2026

SAESL positions for growth through four strategic talent and technology partnerships

- Four Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to be signed to strengthen aerospace career pathways and advance next-generation MRO technologies in Singapore.
- Partnerships expected to support a future pipeline of up to 200 trainee technicians annually, as SAESL plans to hire more than 1,000 technicians over the next five years.
- Five-year partnership with the A*STAR ARTC to accelerate world-class MRO through technology.
- Announcement follows SAESL's 25-year anniversary and 5,000th engine serviced since inception.

Singapore Aero Engine Services Private Limited (SAESL), the world's largest Rolls-Royce Trent engine Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) provider, today announced that it will sign four Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) at MRO Asia-Pacific 2026. The strategic partnerships are with the Institute of Technical Education (ITE), Republic Polytechnic (RP), Temasek Polytechnic (TP) and the A*STAR Advanced Remanufacturing and Technology Centre (A*STAR ARTC).

Through its partnerships with ITE, RP and TP, SAESL will create meaningful pathways towards aerospace and MRO careers for Singapore's young talent. This includes training modules, internships, traineeships, work-study programmes and hands-on industry experience.

"Singapore's aerospace industry will continue to depend on a strong pipeline of skilled local talent and continued development of advanced technologies. Through these partnerships, we are creating more opportunities for young talent to gain direct experience in aerospace MRO and build meaningful long-term careers in the sector. Our partnership with A*STAR ARTC will complement these efforts by advancing the technologies and capabilities needed to support the growing global demand for MRO. These initiatives strengthen the foundation for the next generation of aerospace professionals while supporting the long-term growth of SAESL and reinforcing Singapore's position as a leading global aerospace hub," said **Mr. Chris Pattinson, Chief Executive Officer, SAESL**.

"SAESL's commitment to offer 30 Work-Study Diploma placements in 2027 marks the start of a longer-term partnership to develop aerospace talent. Through this partnership, our students will gain valuable workplace learning and career opportunities, with scholarships among the initiatives that will be introduced over time. Closer industry collaboration and staff attachments will also strengthen our training and help ensure that our curriculum remains aligned with evolving industry needs," said **Mr Peter Lam, Chief Executive Officer, ITE**.

Since 2021, TP has trained close to 600 SAESL trainee technicians, while SAESL has hosted 260 TP engineering students as interns.

"Technology will transform aerospace, but people will define its future. As MRO becomes more advanced and data-driven, we need a workforce that is adaptive, digitally fluent and grounded in strong engineering fundamentals. At Temasek Polytechnic, we see education and workforce development as one continuum — from early industry exposure to lifelong upskilling. Through our partnership with SAESL, we are bringing education and industry closer together to anticipate future capabilities and prepare people to thrive alongside emerging technologies. Together, we are not just preparing for the future of aerospace; we are helping to create it," said **Mr Patrice Choong, Principal & CEO, Temasek Polytechnic**.



“Through this collaboration with SAESL, learners will benefit from industry exposure, hands-on learning opportunities and closer integration between classroom learning and workplace practice. Leveraging RP's applied learning approach, aerospace capabilities and the RP Aerospace Hub's industry-relevant training environment, we aim to equip both students and working professionals with the technical expertise, adaptability and future-ready skills needed to support the evolving needs of the aerospace and MRO sector. We look forward to creating meaningful pathways with SAESL to support skill development, career progression and long-term growth within Singapore's aerospace ecosystem,” **said Ms Jeanne Liew, Principal & CEO, Republic Polytechnic.**

Furthermore, SAESL's collaboration with the A*STAR ARTC will focus on the development and deployment of advanced technologies including AI-native and autonomous inspection, assembly and disassembly solutions. This includes supporting local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in adopting and industrialising advanced manufacturing technologies, helping build local capabilities across Singapore's aerospace ecosystem.

“For over a decade, SAESL and A*STAR ARTC have demonstrated how applied innovation can create real industrial impact. This new five-year collaboration reflects our shared commitment to accelerate the deployment of next-generation MRO technologies, strengthen workforce capabilities, and advance Singapore's aerospace ecosystem. Together, we look forward to working alongside SAESL to help establish Singapore as a global benchmark for innovation-driven industrial excellence,” **said Dr David Low, Chief Executive Officer, A*STAR Advanced Remanufacturing and Technology Centre (A*STAR ARTC).**

Collectively, these initiatives are expected to support a future pipeline of up to 200 trainee technicians annually, contributing to SAESL's plans to hire more than 1,000 technicians over the next five years.

This continued focus on capability building, workforce development and innovation will support SAESL's ongoing S\$242 million investment expansion and transformation programme, including a new 26,000 square metre facility in JTC's Loyang industrial estate scheduled for completion in 2027, expansion into Rolls-Royce's existing premises at Seletar Aerospace Park, and a goal to increase operational MRO capacity by 40 per cent.

These initiatives will complement SAESL's Training Academy, first announced earlier this year in collaboration with the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB). With EDB's support, SAESL is strengthening training pathways that serve both the company and Singapore's broader aerospace sector, while contributing to the development of a stronger national talent ecosystem.



Appendix – Additional Information

Market Context: The MRO market is forecast to continue its growth trajectory and increase from USD 100.8 billion in 2026 to USD 120.9 billion by 2030, supported by the integration of digital technologies and enhanced operational efficiency¹. Accounting for 20 per cent of global engine MRO output, Singapore will remain an integral MRO hub. As demand grows, so does the need for highly skilled technical talent and advanced maintenance capabilities required for world-class MRO operations.

Education Partnerships: Institute of Technical Education (ITE), Republic Polytechnic (RP) and Temasek Polytechnic (TP)

- Support stronger education-to-employment pathways, including progression into SAESL's Traineeship Programme, Work-Study Diploma pathway and longer-term employment opportunities.
- Provide opportunities for applied learning and industry exposure for internships, traineeships, scholarships and industry experience programmes.
- Explore curriculum alignment, lecturer capability development, staff industry attachments and workforce training.
- Upon full implementation, the partnerships are expected to contribute to a sustainable pipeline of up to 200 trainee technicians annually for SAESL.

Technology partnership: Accelerating the Future of Aerospace MRO Through Technology and Talent

Complementing its workforce initiatives, SAESL has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a five-year Future MRO Partnership, with the A*STAR Advanced Remanufacturing and Technology Centre (A*STAR ARTC), spanning 2026 to 2031.

The collaboration marks a new chapter in SAESL's transformation journey and reflects a shared ambition to establish Singapore as the global benchmark for Rolls-Royce Trent engine MRO.

Building on years of successful collaboration, the partnership is anchored on three strategic pillars:

- **Technology Leadership** through joint innovation and accelerated development of advanced MRO technologies, including AI-native and autonomous inspection, assembly and disassembly technologies to improve productivity, quality and turnaround times;
- **Workforce Transformation** through structured secondments, leadership exchanges, automation, capability development initiatives and joint knowledge-transfer programmes in such areas as automation and advanced repair technologies; and
- **Supply Chain Resilience** through partnerships with local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to accelerate the adoption and industrialisation of advanced manufacturing technologies, helping build local capabilities across Singapore's aerospace ecosystem.
- **Applied innovation:** Undertake annual joint sprint projects to identify, develop and scale technologies that can be translated into operational improvements.

-END-

¹ [Grand View Research: Aircraft MRO Market \(2025-2030\)](#)





For further information, please contact:

Media

Rachel Tay,
rachel.tay@saesl.com.sg,
9189 6687

Oliver Norgate
Oliver.norgate@teneo.com
8733 1105

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). Since commencing operations in 2001, SAESL has grown into the world's largest Rolls-Royce Trent engine MRO provider and a market leader in engine overhaul and component repair services. SAESL's engine overhaul business has the broadest capability in the Trent network, servicing Trent 900, all variants of Trent 1000, Trent 7000 and Trent XWB engines. The facility has the capacity to overhaul more than 300 Trent engines annually and is equipped with a state-of-the-art Engine Test Facility supporting industry-leading turnaround times.

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

About Institute of Technical Education (ITE)

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) was established as a post-secondary institution in 1992, under the Ministry of Education. ITE is a principal provider of career and technical education and a key developer of national skills certification and standards skilling Singapore for the future economy. It offers three key programmes - (1) Pre-Employment Training for youths after secondary education (2) Continuing Education and Training for adult learners and (3) Workplace Learning and Work-Study Programmes with employers. Under its 'One ITE System, Three Colleges' Governance Model, ITE has three Colleges - ITE College Central, ITE College East and ITE College West. For more information on ITE, please visit <https://www.ite.edu.sg>

About the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)

The Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) is Singapore's lead public sector R&D agency. Through open innovation, we collaborate with our partners in both the public and private sectors to benefit the economy and society. As a Science and Technology Organisation, A*STAR bridges the gap between academia and industry. Our research creates economic growth and jobs for Singapore, and enhances lives by improving societal outcomes in healthcare, urban living, and sustainability. A*STAR plays a key role in nurturing scientific talent and leaders for the wider research community and industry. A*STAR's R&D activities span biomedical sciences to physical sciences and engineering, with research entities primarily located in Biopolis and Fusionopolis. For more information on A*STAR, please visit <https://www.a-star.edu.sg/>.

The A*STAR Advanced Remanufacturing and Technology Centre (A*STAR ARTC) is a contemporary platform built upon strong public-private partnerships. In partnership with Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore, A*STAR ARTC has a membership consortium with over 95 members, ranging from global multinational corporations (MNCs), public agencies, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), to startups. A*STAR ARTC's expertise in advanced manufacturing and remanufacturing accelerates the transfer of innovation from applied research to industrial applications and solutions, building capabilities through collaboration with industry members in five industry pillars - Aerospace, FMCG, Energy, Land Transport and Biomedical Manufacturing.



About Temasek Polytechnic (TP)

Established in 1990, TP is one of the leading institutions of higher learning in Singapore. Currently it offers 36 full-time diploma courses in the areas of applied science, business, design, engineering, humanities & social sciences and informatics & IT. It also offers over 40 part-time courses, up to specialist diploma level. TP students undergo a holistic learning system that combines hands-on experience, character education and relevant life skills, in an enriching learning environment.

The Polytechnic has also infused global realities into its programmes and developed a mindset on campus that embraces socio-cultural diversity. Believing in the possibilities of tomorrow, Temasek Polytechnic is committed to co-creating a better world with its stakeholders by nurturing the next generation of values-centred leaders, lifelong learners and future-oriented creators. For more information, please visit www.tp.edu.sg.

About Republic Polytechnic (RP)

Established in 2002, Republic Polytechnic (RP) is Singapore's youngest polytechnic. RP offers over 40 full-time courses across diverse fields, including Applied Science, Business, Engineering, Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports and Health, and Technology for Arts, Media and Design. Through its "Becoming Greater Me" framework, RP endeavours to spark joy in learning by helping students discover their purpose and aligning their goals and passions with both academic and life pursuits.

RP adopts effective learner-centred pedagogies to equip students with a wide range of skills needed to thrive in an ever-evolving world. The polytechnic envisions its graduates as Articulate Self-Starters, Passionate Community Builders, and Purposeful Game-Changers. Additionally, RP's Academy for Continuing Education offers a comprehensive suite of lifelong learning programmes, providing graduates and adult learners with upskilling opportunities. For more information, please visit <http://www.rp.edu.sg>.

