Dateline: Singapore

SAM awarded contract to manufacture beams

*Operations will begin Jan 2012, first delivery expected same year

An artist’s impression of the new manufacturing facility in Science Park, on mainland Penang.
Singapore Aerospace Manufacturing (SAM) has been awarded with a multi-year contract, valued at US$670 million, to manufacture structural beams for new fleets of commercial aircrafts.

The beams will be manufactured in a new 150,000 ft$^2$ facility located at the Science Park on mainland Penang, in Malaysia. In total, SAM will invest US$60 million in the new facility, including the purchase of equipments from the United States and Germany.

This shall be SAM’s second manufacturing site in Penang, Malaysia. The Group’s operations in Malaysia is presently spearheaded by SAM Engineering & Equipment (M) Berhad, which specializes in Large Format Machining, Precision Engineering, Equipment Fabrication and Automation.

The new Boeing 787 Dreamliner will be fitted with beams manufactured by SAM’s new facility in Malaysia. Other aircrafts include the Airbus A350, Bombardier C-Series, and Mitsubishi Regional Jet.

Operation of the beams is scheduled to commence in Jan 2012 and the first delivery is expected to take place in the same year. The beams produced by SAM shall be used on the soon-to-be-launched Boeing 787 Dreamliner, Airbus 350, Bombardier C-Series and Mitsubishi Regional Jets, with volume expected to pick up during the 2013/14 period.

The contract shall strengthen SAM’s position as a leading manufacturer of critical aero-engine and structural components to international aviation players. SAM currently holds the distinction of being the largest engine casing manufacturer in Asia, producing more than 5,000 engine cases per year for commercial planes.
SAM Malaysia’s employees, Goh Aik Chuan (left) and Tan Chee Yean (2nd from right), were among those selected for the Beam Project Training.

In preparation for the Beam Project, SAM has initiated a nine-month Training Programme, in a collaborated effort with representatives from SAM sites in Singapore, Penang and Suzhou.

The training, which began in January this year, involves 11 employees and shall be conducted in phases in Singapore, Malaysia, USA and Germany.

Dateline: Penang, Malaysia

SAM Malaysia Collaborates with JMTI to pursue training excellence

*Internship and Tailored Curriculum among the objectives of Collaboration

SAM Malaysia collaborated with the Japan Malaysia Technical Institute (JMTI), to host 11 students for a 22-week Internship Programme, beginning from January this year.

During this time, the students, who are pursuing their final year Diploma in Manufacturing Engineering Technology, will be trained in all areas under the Aerospace Division, from CNC Milling, Turning, FPI, QA Inspection, Anodizing, to Assembly, Deburring, and Manufacturing Process Documentation.
Eager to begin their training - SAM Malaysia’s Group HR Manager, Nazry Murat (standing, left) and members of the management team were on hand to welcome the students on their first day of training.

The intensive training provides the students an insight and hands-on experience of each process flow.

Group HR Manager, Nazry Murat said “We are pleased to provide training to JMTI students as it helps to create career opportunities for these youths and develop their potential.”

“JMTI is one of the leading technical institutions in the country, and SAM Malaysia has a high demand for skilled workforce. Thus, the internship allows SAM Malaysia to assess the students’ capabilities and consider them for employment,” added Nazry.
A rich learning ground – the interns were excited to work with the high precision machines and understanding each process flow.

Over the next few years, SAM Malaysia shall continue to provide internship opportunities to JMTI students.

Apart from the Internship, SAM Malaysia will also collaborate with JMTI to develop a Special Curriculum that is tailored to our industry needs, in terms of Aerospace and Large Format Machining.

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ERT members prepare to answer the call of duty

Emergency Preparedness is vital to ensure an organization’s ability to respond in a timely & effective manner in the event of emergencies. Bearing this in mind, SAM Malaysia recently sent a group of its Emergency Response Team (ERT) for training on "Basics of Fire-fighting & Rescue Certification Programme". 
Men of Courage - SAM Malaysia currently has more than 70 ERT members. The team is required to be trained in Fire-fighting and First Aid.

A total of 25 Emergency Response Team (ERT) members attended the three-day intensive training, held at the Bayan Baru Fire Station, which included dry and wet fire drills.

The participants gave total commitment and put in their best effort, to complete the training successfully and passing the examinations with flying colours.

To mark the successful completion of the training, a Convocation ceremony was held at SAM Malaysia’s Corporate Office to confer the scroll to each participant, followed by a tea reception.
More than just a training....the Fire-fighting course provides the ideal platform for our ERT members to work together in synergy.

Safety Chairman of SAM Malaysia’s Aerospace site, Teo Choon Eng, stressed that it is imperative for our ERT to be well-trained in order to respond to any emergencies at the workplace, as the first few seconds can make the difference between life and death.

“The Fire-fighting training is a good start. Apart from ensuring that our ERT is well-prepared to handle fire incidences at work, our next action plan is to identify areas that are potential fire hazards, as part of our fire preventive measures. This is line with our aspiration to create a safe and conducive working environment, free from dangers,” added Teo.

Next on the ERT training schedule is the “Basics of First Aid” course to be conducted by the Malaysian Red Crescent.
Dateline: Suzhou, China

SAM Suzhou Celebrates 15th Anniversary in style

Hoppity-hop....to usher in the Year of the Rabbit, employees thoroughly enjoyed themselves taking part in the "rabbit dance", led by the emcees.

Awesome, with loads of fun and an impressive showcase of talents! Aptly themed "Starlight 15 Years", SAM Suzhou celebrated its 15th anniversary in conjunction with its Annual Dinner, held early this year.

Every attendee received a lovely rabbit head gear as a door gift, as according to the Chinese zodiac, year 2011 is the "Year of the Rabbit".
In his speech, General Manager, Tan Chong Siong thanked the employees for their contribution and excellent achievements that they have accomplished for SAM Suzhou during the past 15 years. He also hoped that they will continue to uphold their high standards of performance and embrace teamwork ever more closely.

In recognition of employees’ contribution and achievements, SAM Suzhou introduced two awards, the Continuous Improvement (CI) Award and the Mentor Award. For the CI Award, winners were determined by a voting system, whilst for the Mentor Award, winners were assessed based on feedback by trainees, trainees’ job skills and quality of work.

The Roll of Honour is as follows:  
**Continuous Improvement Award:**
Chen Song Ling from Production won “Most CI Award”.
Zhou Xue Feng and Chen Gang from Production won “Best CI Award”.

**Mentor Award:**
Five employees were selected for this Award - Hong Liang Rong, Li Pei Qi, Zhang Chang Ming, Yao Zhen Qiang and Zhou Xue Feng, all from Production.

The Awards will be given on a yearly basis, as a source of encouragement and motivation to employees.
“Will you marry me, please?” – in this hilarious game, eight men were trying their luck to win a lady’s heart. The “actors” were from Project Management, QA and Production.

More than 300 employees attended the Dinner which offers an exciting Programme to keep the audience entertained and mesmerized throughout the evening – from Lucky Draws, Games to splendid stage performances, all conceptualized and carried out by employees themselves, without any assistance from external parties.

Also present at the Dinner were the COO of SAM, Tan Guan Thong; VP of HR, Helen Luk; the engineering team of SAM Meerkat (Suzhou), as well as customer representatives from GE and Rolls Royce.
“Jackie Chan” in action – staff from the Production department wowed the crowd with a spectacular Chinese martial arts performance.

Project Manager, Paw Gee John, (in front) lead a group of staff from HR, Finance, and ACE21 to perform the Thousand-Hand Bodhisattva Dance.
A showcase of talents - Guo Zhou Ya (left) from Production, loves to sing while HR’s Holly Zhang (right) prefers the Chinese lute (pipa).

Hats off to the Organizing Committee and participants/performers for giving us such an excellent evening. The entire Dinner programme was conceptualized and carried out by employees themselves, without any external assistance.
SAM Meerkat (Suzhou) Successfully Completes Knowledge Transfer Training Program

To facilitate the set-up of a new contract manufacturing facility in Suzhou, SAM Malaysia hosted six engineers from China for a five-month training stint.

The engineers were trained at SAM Meerkat, the contract manufacturing division of SAM Malaysia, located in Penang Island, during the second half of 2010. Upon completion of their training, which entails the A-Z of the contract manufacturing production set-up, the engineers put their knowledge into practice in setting up the new facility, known as SAM Meerkat (Suzhou).

Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere - the Chinese engineers were attached to SAM Malaysia’s contract manufacturing division, SAM Meerkat, in Penang for a five-month training stint.

With the new plant in operations, SAM Meerkat (Suzhou) will now be the extended arm for SAM Meerkat (Malaysia) to better serve its customer’s requirements in China as part of a new business strategy.

It was an invaluable experience for these engineers, who had the privilege to be exposed to various management systems and product information, learning the know-how to establish a new facility. Training in a multi-cultural environment in SAM Malaysia also enriches their communication and management skills.
SAM Meerkat believes that fostering a close working relationship with customers is crucial for success.

Special Feature: “House of Blessings”
A Corporate Social Responsibility Project by SAM Group

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give”
-Winston Churchill
They were simply adorable, and their smiles could melt your heart. To these children, home is a place called “House of Blessings”, located in the foothills of Doi Saket district of Chiang Mai, Thailand.

SAM Malaysia’s Ann Tan recently paid a visit to the “House of Blessings” and came back with this story to share.....

The Home aims to provide the children with opportunities to improve their lives, through education and good upbringing.

The “House of Blessings” provides shelter to orphans, and children from poor and underprivileged families from the various hill tribes – Lisu, Meo, Yao, Akha, to name a few. Most of them came from the Golden Triangle area, bordering Thailand, Laos and Myanmar.

By providing them with life’s basic necessities, education opportunities, and instilling good upbringing values, the Home hopes that these children will be able to better their lives as they grow into adulthood, breaking away from the vicious cycle of poverty that they had to endure as a child.
Babies’ Room - the Home also cares for babies who were abandoned at birth.

Crammed and crowded dormitory – due to space constraints, the children had to put up with poor living conditions until their new Home is completed.

For the past five years, SAM Group has been supporting the Home by helping to raise funds totalling S$80,000. The funds were channeled towards the building of the new Home, to enable the Home to provide better living conditions for the children.
The Home currently has 100 children under its care, and the number is expected to increase.

In the basic stage of construction, SAM used part of the fund specifically to fill and install the electric transformer for the land before the actual construction of the home.

Food for thought - the children’s staple diet mainly consists of rice and porridge with vegetables and meat.

The children lining up for their share of Dunkin Donuts, a treat by SAM Malaysia during a recent visit.
Now as the construction enters its second phase, SAM intends to support the building of the cafeteria with the balance of fund.

VP of HR, Helen Luk, said that SAM Group, via its Malaysia and Singapore sites, shall collaborate a fund-raising activity to raise additional fund to support the construction costs of the cafeteria, inclusive of kitchen utensils, water and electricity installation.

“SAM group shall continue to assist the Home in their hour of need, as part of our Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) initiatives. We are also exploring other possibilities of collaborating with our Europe and Suzhou sites to contribute towards the fund,” added Helen Luk.

Construction of the new Home is in progress and the children are expected to move in by this year.
The Home is seeking funds to build a canteen on the vacant land between the boys’ and girls’ hostels, as shown above. SAM Group shall join efforts to initiate fund-raising activities for the building.

Together, we’re one big happy family – the children of the “House of Blessings” are indeed blessed with a warm and caring home. With the support of SAM and other caring organizations, these children will soon be able to move to the new Home, with more comfortable living conditions.
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