

PRESS RELEASE

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Aviation Crisis Management Experts Share Best Practices at AAPA Emergency Response Conference in Bangkok

Bangkok, Thailand – Over 130 aviation crisis management and emergency response professionals are gathered in Bangkok for the 7th AAPA Emergency Response Conference organised by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA), and co-hosted by Japan Airlines.

Themed "*Synergies beyond Borders*", this year's conference focuses on building new collaborations and strengthening existing co-operation amongst industry partners to address a diverse set of challenges faced by the industry today.

Topics addressed at the conference include: recommended practices during diversions, best practices in crisis communications, resource pooling across airport communities, and perspectives of next-of-kin. Conference delegates will also be able to participate in an interactive exercise.

Welcoming delegates to Bangkok in his keynote speech, Mr. Andrew Herdman, AAPA Director General, said, "Every day, 100,000 flights take-off and land, carrying 10 million passengers to their destinations safely and securely. This remarkable achievement is a direct result of good teamwork and the commitment of aviation safety professionals around the world. Accidents, though rare, do occur from time to time. We need to ensure that appropriate emergency response plans and procedures are put in place to deal with such events. Crisis management and emergency response preparedness are inevitably closely linked."

Mr. Herdman added, "We must always be prepared for such emergencies, however unlikely or infrequent. Working together, regulators and industry stakeholders need to be ready to apply important lessons learned from past experience and improve upon existing practices where necessary. Governments have a key role to play in providing regulatory oversight consistent with established ICAO standards."

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Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA)

The AAPA is the trade association for scheduled international airlines based in the Asia-Pacific region. The AAPA permanent secretariat is headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with international representation in Brussels and Washington, D.C. Collectively, the region's airlines carry 1,214 million passengers and 20 million tonnes of cargo, representing one-third of global passenger traffic and two-fifths of global air cargo traffic respectively, and thus play a critically important role in the ongoing development of global aviation.

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