

## A Technical Visit to A380 MAS Hangar 06, KLIA

ENGINEERING EDUCATION TECHNICAL DIVISION



by Engr. Dr. Nidahnor Md. Yusop

**THE** Engineering Education Technical Division (EETD) had organised a technical visit to the A380 MAS Hangar 06 located at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) on 7 September 2012, which was participated by 39 delegates. The MAS Hangar 06 showcased the A380-800 aircraft – the first commercial flights by the airline commenced on 1 July 2012, from Kuala Lumpur to London Heathrow Airport, and was followed by flights to Sydney on 25 September 2012.

The delegates were welcomed by the Superintendent of MAS Aircraft Maintenance Unit (AMU), Mr. Ahmad Hisham bin Ahmad, who conducted the introduction session with a presentation on the history of the AMU and their services offered to the customer.



*Introductory briefing presented by Ir. Ahmad Hisham bin Ahmad, the Aircraft Maintenance Unit Superintendent*

Located at the Hangar Complex, the AMU provides a comprehensive range of services encompassing aircraft maintenance which is tailored to customer's requirements, cabin reconfiguration or integration services, cabin design engineering, freighter conversion, fleet technical management, component services, engine overhauling and technical training.

The maintenance services involve various aircraft from around the world. In his opening remarks, Mr. Ahmad Hisham highlighted that the MAS Hangar 06 was purposely built to cater for the maintenance of the Airbus A380-800 aircraft. Equipped with special equipment, it was the first purpose-built hangar in South East Asia offering maintenance for the Airbus A380 aircraft.

After the briefing on the background and recent development of MAS, the delegates were led by Mr. Ahmad Hisham and the technicians of AMU for a tour at the hangar and maintenance area, which provided the delegates with comprehensive information on the various maintenance facilities and equipment being deployed.



*Aircraft main wheel balancing process*



*Aircraft main wheel disk brake*



*Boeing B747-800 cockpit*



*Boeing B747-800 engine*



*The rear view of a Boeing B747-800 with the registration number of the aircraft visible*

The Hangar 06 is known for its spaciousness which also gives it the flexibility to provide maintenance for the Airbus A380 aircraft as well as other types of aircraft at the same time. The internal hangar floor was designed as an open space, free of columns, plinths, open pits and underground mounted equipment. There are five aircraft parking options where multiple aircrafts maintenance in the hangar is made possible. Three parking bays in the hangar, namely Line 1, Line 2 and Line 3, can accommodate up to two Airbus A380-800s and one Boeing B737-800 at the same time.

The delegates had a chance to view the different components of an aircraft. The tour on the B747-800 aircraft exposed the delegates to its cockpit, cabin and cargo bay inside the airplane. Live maintenance procedures were also shown to the delegates.



*An Airbus A330-800 aircraft undergoing front wheel alignment adjustments*



*A group photo of the delegates*

The tour ended shortly afterwards. The EETD would like to express its gratitude to the AMU for their warm reception and the arrangement of the technical visit which had provided the delegates with the rare opportunity to get to know more about aircraft maintenance and repair processes. ■

Engr. Dr. Nadiyahnor Md. Yusop is currently a Committee Member of the Engineering Education Technical Division, IEM. She is a lecturer at the School of Mechanical Engineering, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Engineering Campus, Nibong Tebal, Pulau Pinang.