

Asian Breeze (64)

(亜細亜の風)

Happy Summer to you

10 June 2019

Dear Coordinators and Facilitators in Asia/Pacific region. You must be relaxed after sent out W19 SAL to the airlines or might be busy preparing for the trip to Cape Town, South Africa for IATA SC144.

Tokyo area got into the rainy season on 7 June last week according to Meteorological agency. The rainy season will continue for one and half month till the middle of July which makes most of people feel blue.

However, the flower called “Ajisai” in Japanese or hydrangea macrophylla will bloom during this season which makes us forget the blue mood of rainy season for a while.

For this issue, I have received a wonderful contribution from Ms. Sirima Chuensomboon, Head Coordinator, The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) featuring Don Mueang International Airport (DMK) and Suvarnabhumi International Airport (BKK). In addition, I featured the APACA/18 and Asian Tea Gathering to be held during IATA SC144 in Cape Town. I hope you will enjoy reading them. Looking forward to seeing you all there next week.



Airports in Thailand

Thailand, officially the Kingdom of Thailand, is a country at the center of the Southeast Asian Indochinese peninsula composed of 76 provinces. Thailand is the world's 50th largest country by total area and the 21st most-populous country. The capital and largest city is Bangkok, a special administrative area. Thailand is bordered to the north by Myanmar and Laos, to the east by Laos and Cambodia, to the south by the Gulf of Thailand and Malaysia, and to the west by the Andaman Sea and the southern extremity of Myanmar. Its maritime boundaries include Vietnam in the Gulf of Thailand to the southeast, and Indonesia and India on the Andaman Sea to the southwest.

There are 11 international airports in Thailand. Eight airports out of eleven are registered as congested airport in IATA. Four airports are registered as Level 3 and four airports are registered as Level 2.



Airport Name	IATA Code	Airport Level	Operator
Chiang Mai International Airport	CNX	L3	AOT *
Don Mueang International Airport	DMK	L3	AOT *
Suvarnabhumi International Airport	BKK	L3	AOT *
Phuket International Airport	HKT	L3	AOT *
Chiang Rai International Airport	CEI	L2	AOT *
U-Tapao International Airport	UTP	L2	Royal Thai Navy
Krabi International Airport	KBV	L2	Department of Airports
Hat Yai International Airport	HDY	L2	AOT *

* AOT: Airports of Thailand Public Company Limited

Don Mueang International Airport (DMK)

Don Mueang International Airport (IATA: DMK, ICAO: VTBD) is one of two international airports serving Greater Bangkok, the other one being Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK). The airport is considered to be one of the world's oldest international airports and Asia's oldest operating airport. It was officially opened as a Royal Thai Air Force base on 27 March 1914, although it had been in use earlier. Commercial flights began in 1924, making it one of the world's oldest commercial airports. The first commercial flight was an arrival by KLM Royal Dutch Airlines.

In September 2006, Don Mueang Airport was closed and replaced by the newly opened Suvarnabhumi Airport, before reopening on 24 March 2007 after renovations. Since the opening of the new airport, it has become a regional commuter flight hub and the de facto low-cost airline hub. In 2015, it became the world's largest low cost carrier airport.

Don Mueang previously carried the BKK IATA code (subsequently transferred to Suvarnabhumi) and was an important hub of Asia and the hub of Thai Airways International prior to its closure. At its peak, it served most air traffic for the entire country, with 80 airlines operating 160,000 flights and handling over 38 million passengers and 700,000 tons of cargo in 2004. It was then the 14th busiest airport in the world and 2nd in Asia by passenger volume. Currently, Don Mueang is the main hub for Nok Air, Thai AirAsia, Thai Lion Air, and New Gen Airways.

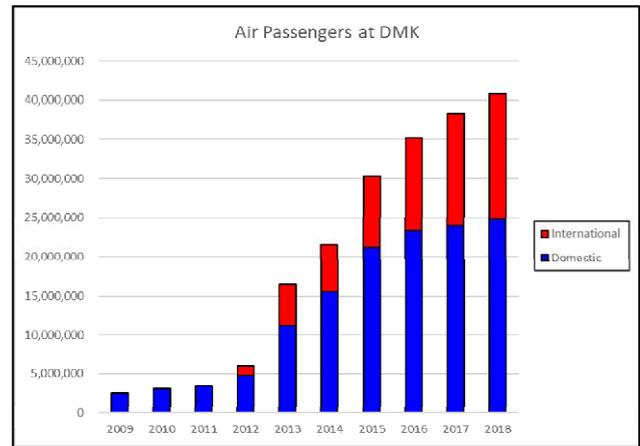
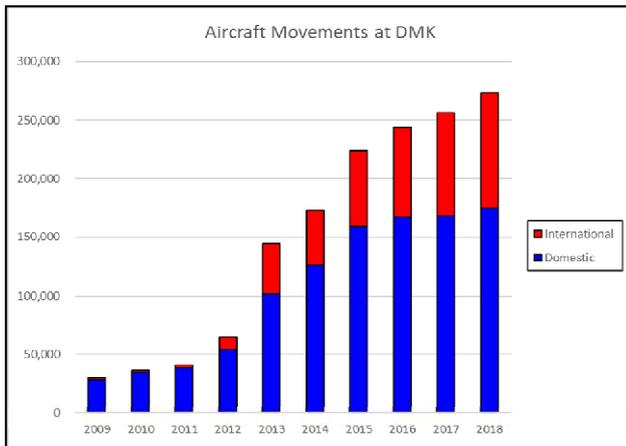
Air Transport Statistics

(1) Aircraft Movements

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	28,627	34,261	38,795	54,059	102,186	125,835	158,804	166,898	168,494	174,806
International	1,553	1,792	2,145	11,061	41,922	46,846	65,270	77,399	88,266	97,555
Total	30,180	36,053	40,940	65,120	144,108	172,681	224,074	244,297	256,760	272,361

(2) Air Passengers

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	2,447,265	2,983,717	3,393,999	4,807,934	11,190,782	15,556,627	21,133,502	23,323,457	23,942,371	24,779,256
International	19,732	16,150	30,916	1,175,207	5,288,444	5,989,941	9,170,681	11,880,300	14,357,386	15,978,892
Total	2,466,997	2,999,867	3,424,915	5,983,141	16,479,226	21,546,568	30,304,183	35,203,757	38,299,757	40,758,148



Air Route Network



Airport Infrastructure



There are 2 close parallel runways; one is runway (03L/21R) whose length is 3,700m, the other is runway

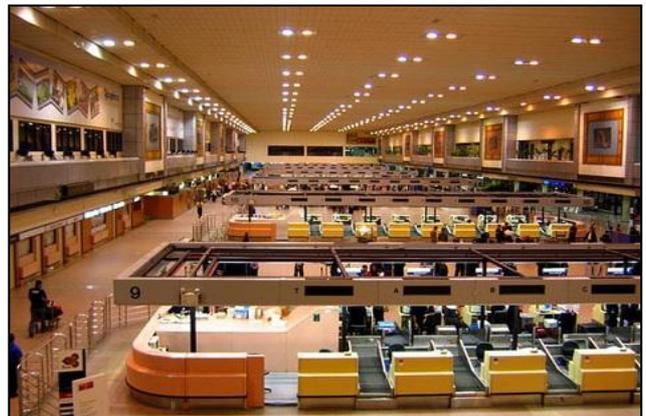
(03R/21L) whose length is 3,500m.

Passenger Terminal

Don Mueang International Airport has three terminals. Terminal 1 is used for international flights and Terminal 2 for domestic flights. The opening of Terminal 2 has raised the airport's capacity to 30 million passengers per year. Terminal 3 the old domestic terminal is not now used.

Originally Terminal 1 was capable of handling 18.5 million passengers annually. On 7 September 2013,

Airports of Thailand announced its 3 billion baht renovation to reopen Terminal 2 as early as May 2014. Terminal 1's passengers in 2013 was likely to reach 16 million against its capacity of 18.5 million. Completion of Terminal 2 in December 2015 increased the capacity to 30 million passengers per year.



The third phase of Don Mueang's 38 billion baht expansion will stretch from 2018 to 2024. It aims to increase the airport's capacity to 40 million passengers per year from its 38 million passengers in 2017. The new 155,000m² international Terminal 3 will accommodate 18 million passengers a year.

Suvarnabhumi International Airport (BKK)

Suvarnabhumi Airport (IATA: BKK, ICAO: VTBS), also known unofficially as Bangkok Airport, is one of two international airports serving Bangkok, Thailand. The other older one is Don Mueang International Airport. Suvarnabhumi covers an area of 3,240ha making it one of the biggest international airports in Southeast Asia and a regional hub for aviation. Suvarnabhumi was officially opened for limited domestic flight service on 15 September 2006, and opened for most domestic and all international commercial flights on 28 September 2006.

The airport is currently the main hub for Thai Airways International, Thai Smile Airways, and Bangkok Airways. It also serves as regional gateway and connecting point for various foreign carriers.

The airport is on what had formerly been known as Nong Nguhao (Cobra Swamp) in Racha Thewa in Bang Phli, Samut Prakan, about 25km east of downtown Bangkok. The airport had the world's tallest free-standing control tower (132.2m) from 2006 to 2014, and the world's fourth largest single-building airport terminal (563,000m²).

Suvarnabhumi is the 21st busiest airport in the world, eleventh busiest airport in Asia, and the busiest in the country, having handled 60 million passengers in 2017, and is also a major air cargo hub, with a total of 95 airlines. On social networks, Suvarnabhumi was the world's most popular site for taking Instagram photographs in 2012.

The airport inherited the airport code, BKK, from Don Mueang after the previous airport ceased international commercial flights. The modern Motorway 7 connects the airport, Bangkok, and the heavily industrial eastern seaboard of Thailand, where most export manufacturing takes place.

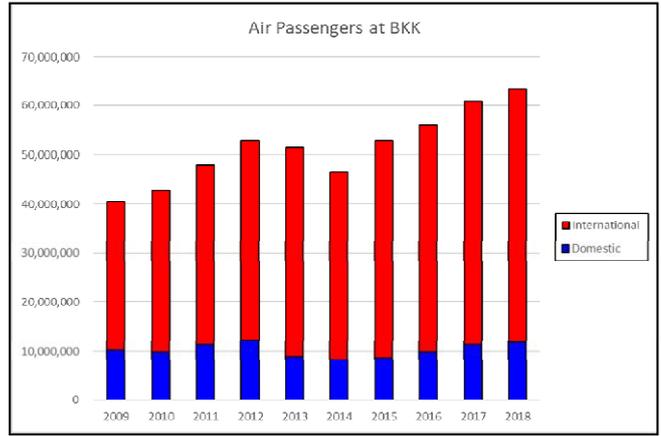
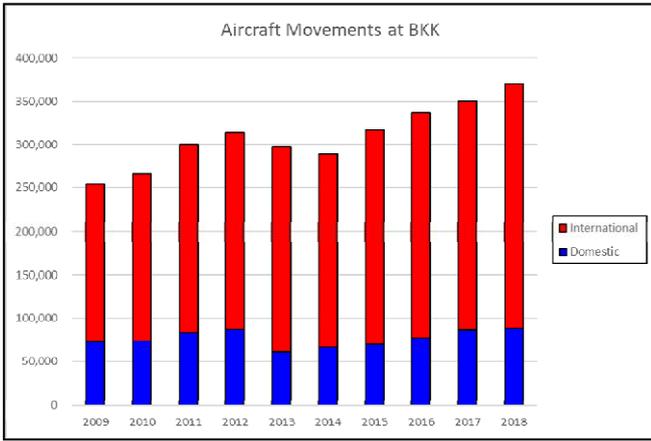
Air Transport Statistics

(1) Aircraft Movements

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	72,445	73,433	82,930	86,391	60,965	66,549	69,482	77,641	86,230	87,597
International	181,522	192,463	216,636	227,808	236,651	223,019	247,584	258,715	264,279	281,879
Total	253,967	265,896	299,566	314,199	297,616	289,568	317,066	336,356	350,509	369,476

(2) Air Passengers

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	10,219,897	9,842,918	11,314,398	12,294,279	8,879,568	8,279,790	8,683,325	9,842,280	11,337,559	11,871,901
International	30,280,327	32,942,049	36,596,506	40,708,049	42,483,883	38,143,562	44,218,785	46,050,383	49,522,799	51,507,176
Total	40,500,224	42,784,967	47,910,904	53,002,328	51,363,451	46,423,352	52,902,110	55,892,663	60,860,358	63,379,077



Air Route Network



Airport Infrastructure



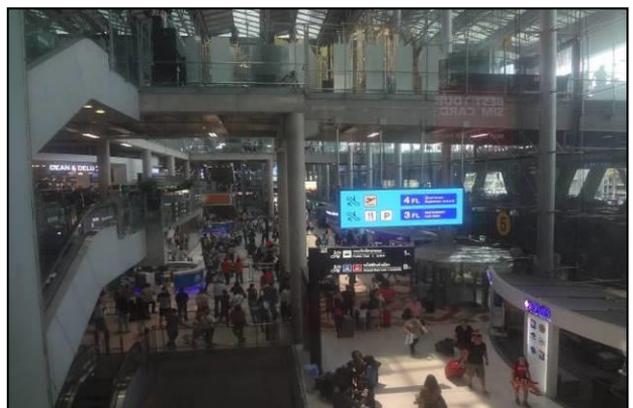
There are 2 parallel runways; one is the runway (01R/19L) whose length is 4,000m and the other is the runway (01L/19R) whose length is 3,700m. As these runways are operated independently, the simultaneous landing and take-offs are possible.

The airport's two runways can accommodate 68 flights per hour. The airport Air Traffic Control tower was the tallest in the world at 135m from 2006 to 2014.



Passenger Terminal

The main passenger terminal building, with a capacity of handling 68 flight operations per hour, co-locates the international and domestic terminals, though assigning them to different parts of the concourse. In the initial phase of construction, it was capable of handling 45 million passengers and 3 million tonnes of cargo per year. The airport's passenger terminal is the world's largest passenger terminal ever constructed in one phase at 563,000m², and is also currently the fourth biggest passenger terminal building in the world, after the Hong Kong International Airport (570,000m²), Beijing Capital International Airport (990,000m²), with the largest passenger terminal at Dubai International Airport (Terminal 3 is over 1,713,000m²).



Future Development

By mid-2015, the airport was handling more than 800 flights per day, higher than its 600 flight capacity. It has exceeded its capacity of 45 million passengers per year. Airports of Thailand (AOT) was approved an investment budget for the Phase 2 expansion of Suvarnabhumi Airport and expected construction to finish in 2020 and begin operation in 2021. The plan was to strengthen Suvarnabhumi Airport's position as a regional aviation hub. Phase 2 would raise the airport's capacity to 65 million passengers a year. The development of Phase 3 will be undertaken right after Phase 2 with the construction of new runway and new terminal.

The 3rd Runway and the new Terminal 2 will be intended to increase the capacity of Suvarnabhumi Airport to accommodate up to 90 million passengers annually with 94 flights per hour.

An expansion plan to increase the capacity of the airport to 60 million passengers per year by building an additional satellite passenger terminal linked to the current main terminal via an underground automated people mover (APM) system. The expansion also includes a plan to expand the airport parking garage as well as the expansion of the main passenger terminal with the construction of a new airline office building. The new satellite terminal will have a total of 28 gates, with eight for the Airbus A380 super jumbo jet.

Introduction of our coordination system

Airport Slot Allocation Group, the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand uses the SCORE (Slot Coordination and Reporting) system for slot coordination.

Information of our office

Organization	Airport Slot Allocation Group The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT)
Address	333/105 Lak Si Plaza, Khamphaeng Phet 6 Rd., Talat Bang Khen, Laksi, Bangkok 10210
Email	slot@caator.th
Web site	-
Telephone	+662 568 8800 ext 6601
Business Hours	09:00-17:00

Organization	Airports of Thailand Public Company Limited (AOT)
Address	333 Cherdwutagard Road, Srikan, Don Mueang, Bangkok 10210
Email	-
Web site	www.airportthai.co.th
Telephone	+66 2132 1888
Business Hours	08:00-17:00

Introduction of coordination members

	
Ms. Sirima Chuensomboon	Airport Slot Allocation Group (SAG) The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand
Head Coordinator	Slot Coordinators

APACA/18 meeting

The eighteenth general assembly meeting of APACA will be held from 17:00 to 18:00 on 18 June (Tuesday) at Cape Town International Convention Center (CTICC) in South Africa. The meeting room for APACA/18 is "Roof Terrace Room" on the level 2 at CTICC. The agenda of APACA/18 meeting is shown below.

1. Approval of Minutes of 17th meeting held on 13 November (Tuesday) 2018, in Madrid, Spain
2. WSG Modification (WSG 10th Edition)
3. WSG New Governance (Worldwide Airport Slot Board)
4. WWACG Membership
5. Independence and Transparency of Coordinators
6. Any Other Business

Asian Tea Gathering

The Asian Tea Gathering will be hosted by Japan Schedule Coordination (JSC) during the lunch time of 12:00 to 13:00 on 20 June (Thursday) 2019. The venue would be the “RM1.64” room on the Level 1 floor of Cape Town International Convention Center (CTICC), the workroom of JSC. Coffee/tea and tea break snacks will be served. Please come freely and join the Asian Tea Gathering to enjoy chatting over a cup of tea or coffee. This gathering is purely informal, no agenda and no speech but chatting. We would appreciate it if you would bring your unique sweets if possible.

From the Chief Editor

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Ms. Sirima Chuensomboon for her contribution. I learnt a lot from this article. I found that the relationship between Don Mueang International Airport (DMK) and Suvarnabhumi International Airport (BKK) is quite similar to that of Narita Airport and Haneda Airport in Japan. Both airports complement each other to meet the huge air transport demands of Capital Cities. I was also so impressed that the construction of new runway and new terminal at Suvarnabhumi International Airport (BKK) is now in progress. With this new development, I am confident that BKK will be the biggest airport in Asia. Having finished this issue, I will go to the “Ajisai Temple” to appreciate beautiful flowers there. (H.T.)

