

# COUNTRY REPORT

50th Executive Council Meeting

Federation of Asia Pacific Air-cargo Associations (FAPAA)

Perth Australia 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024



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# **Industry Overview of Singapore**

#### **Background of Singapore:**

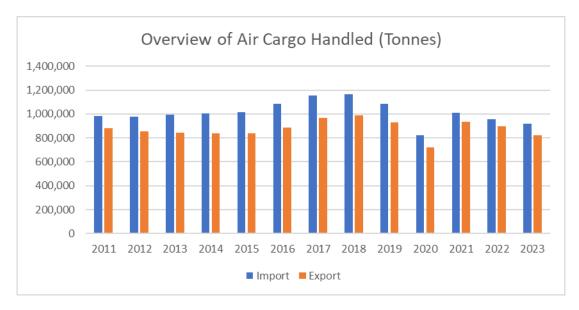
Singapore has built on its advantageous geographical location to become one of the world's top transportation hubs for sea and air cargo. Singapore's container ports are the busiest in the world. They offer a choice of 200 shipping lines with links to some 600 ports in 123 countries.

Changi International Airport is linked to some 280 cities in 60 countries, with about 6,900 weekly flights, providing convenience and effective connectivity for passengers and cargo. The Changi Airfreight Centre is a 24-hour, one-stop hub for the storing, moving and repackaging of goods without the need for documentation and custom duties. This has drawn some 6,000 logistics providers to Singapore, including 20 of the world's top 25 third-party logistics providers.

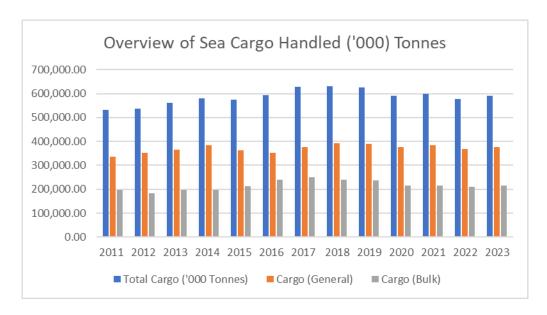
#### i) Singapore Statistics in Brief

Item Description	2022	2023	
Gross Domestic Product	S\$643.5b	S\$673.3b	
Share of Gross Domestic Product (%)			
Transportation & Storage	10.4%	6.8%	
Air Cargo Handled ('000 Tonnes)	1.85	1.74	
Sea Cargo Handled ('000 Tonnes)	578,220.70	591,698.50	

### ii) Past Trends of Cargo Handled by the various modes of transport



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# iii) Industry Challenges

The industry is striving onwards to be relevant, resilient, and competitive to uphold Singapore's role as a global trade and connectivity hub in the post-COVID world.

Five broad Challenges experienced:

- 1) Inflationary Pressures
- 2) Digitalization, Automation, and Innovation Opportunities
- 3) Supply Chain disruptions and operation constraints
- 4) Manpower constraints
- 5) Green Logistics Transition

# Profile of SAAA@Singapore

#### i) Vision, Mission, Values

Vision: To lead and transform the Airfreight Industry

**Mission Statement**: SAAA@Singapore was founded in 1971 with six pioneer members. As a representative of freight forwarders in the industry, SAAA@Singapore was formed with the aim of advocating the following objectives:

- To promote, protect and develop the business of carriage of goods by air transportation in general and the aircargo forwarding business in particular.
- ➤ To advance and promote education and technical training in the aircargo forwarding industry and for such purposes to support training schemes.
- To act as arbitrators and to assist in the settlement of disputes between members.
- ➤ To act as negotiating body for the member of the Association or with the approval of the Association, for any person, body or company for the transaction of any business connected with aircargo and to make recommendations to Government Departments or Agencies, IATA or other bodies in relation to any measure which may be taken involving members and/or the aircargo industry in Singapore.
- > To set and regulate high standards and practices to be maintained by members.

#### **Core Values:**

**PACT**: Passion for continuous self-improvement, Ace in Innovation and delivering consistent excellence, Commitment to pull great service and strive for change, Trust in our Partners and engaging in future collaborations.



# ii) Members Profile

As of 15 May 2024, SAAA@Singapore has a total of 158 Members of which, 117 are Ordinary Members and 41 are Associate Members.

# i) Executive Board Profile

No.	Name	Position	Organization / Company Name	Role at SAAA
1	Mr Steven Lee	Consultant / Air Product Development Sponsor	Ceva Logistics Singapore Pte Ltd	Chairman
2	Mr Paul Teo	VP, South Asia Centre	Speedmark Air Transportation Pte Ltd	First Deputy Chairman
3	Mr Benjamin Ong	President	Alliance 21 Pte Ltd	Second Deputy Chairman
4	Mr Ken Chua	Sales & Marketing Manager	UT-WAYS Freight Services Pte Ltd	Honorary Secretary
5	Mr Jimmy Ler	Country Director	Logwin Air + Ocean Singapore Pte Ltd	Honorary Treasurer
6	Mr Michael Yew	Honorary Executive	SAAA@Singapore	Honorary Executive
7	Mr Richard Chua	Honorary Executive	SAAA@Singapore	Honorary Executive
8	Mr Marc Ong	Director	Aspac Aircargo Services Pte Ltd	Council Member
9	Mr Tan Liang Jian	General Manager	Union Air Freight (Singapore) Pte Ltd	Council Member
10	Mr Ramadas Naidu	Director	Raffles Fulfillment Pte Ltd	Council Member
11	Mr Daniel Chng	Director	Airtropolis Express (S) Pte Ltd	Council Member
12	Mr Gabriel Lam	CEO	Shalom International Movers Pte Ltd	Council Member
13	Mr Gary Ong	Director	Cargotec Pte Ltd	Council Member
14	Mr Roger Chew	Regional Sales Director	SFS Global Logistics Pte Ltd	Council Member
15	Mr Andrea Bettoni	Commercial Manager, Sales and Operations	Skynet Worldwide Express Pte Ltd	Council Member
16	Ms Chorina Khoo	Regional Director (South East Asia)	On Time Worldwide Logistics Pte Ltd	Council Member

## **Local Regulatory and Industry Developments**

- i) New air traffic control centre housing data scientists, weather experts
  - Aims to pool expertise and resources by getting professionals from various fields to work closely with each other.

In the coming years, Singapore will establish a centralized command center, facilitated by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS), to enhance flight management practices. This initiative will unite air traffic controllers, data scientists, and meteorological specialists under one roof, fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing. By integrating expertise and resources from diverse fields, the center seeks to facilitate synergistic interactions, enabling improved information interpretation and enhanced decision-making among air traffic controllers.

- ii) New Autonomous Baggage Handling Vehicles at Changi Airport
  - These vehicles will play a critical role in supporting the turnaround of wide-body flights to achieve efficiency savings, and environmental improvements and to alleviate labour shortages impacting the global aviation sector

Changi Airport Group (CAG) and Aurrigo International plc have finalized an agreement to introduce a fleet of four autonomous baggage handling vehicles for testing underwing operations at Changi Airport.

These state-of-the-art airport baggage handling vehicles, originating from the UK with advanced design and engineering, are slated to arrive in Singapore in the upcoming months. Following the concept validation phase, these vehicles will be instrumental in streamlining the turnaround process of wide-body flights, leading to cost efficiencies, environmental benefits, and addressing labor shortages affecting the global aviation industry.

To date, Singapore's Changi Airport Group will deploy the four new Aurrigo autonomous baggage handling vehicles following successful trials with the UK-developed technology.

#### iii) Jurong Island Terminal Expansion

- To Enhance Sustainable Supply Chain Offerings for the Jurong Island Ecosystem

PSA Singapore (PSA) has unveiled plans for a strategic expansion of its Jurong Island Terminal (JIT) in response to the increasing demand for sustainable, efficient, and resilient supply chain solutions from industries operating on Jurong Island.

Situated on the northwest coast of Jurong Island, JIT currently facilitates twice-daily barge sailings, linking beneficial cargo owners (BCOs) on Jurong Island with PSA's key hubs at Tuas, Pasir Panjang, and Brani, thereby providing access to global markets through Singapore's extensive connectivity.

Jurong Island serves as the epicenter of Singapore's Energy and Chemicals sector, overseen by JTC, encompassing 3,000 hectares and accommodating over 100 global companies engaged in refining, olefins production, and chemical manufacturing.

While containerized raw materials and finished products can be transported to and from Jurong Island by road, barge transportation offers advantages such as reduced labor requirements, alleviation of road congestion, and approximately 30% lower carbon emissions.

Barging demand has been steadily increasing, with JIT volumes experiencing a remarkable year-on-year growth of 13% in 2023, reaching a record-breaking 149,000 twenty-foot equivalent units of containers (TEU).

In collaboration with JTC, PSA intends to expand JIT to enhance its annual handling capacity to 300,000 TEUs to meet anticipated demand. Additionally, new facilities for Dangerous Goods (DG) handling and cargo transloading will be developed to complement PSA's expanding array of physical and digital solutions aimed at assisting BCOs in efficiently managing their inventories and supply chains.

Expected to be completed by 2025, the JIT expansion will contribute to Jurong Island's evolution into a sustainable Energy and Chemicals park, aligning with the objectives outlined in the Singapore Green Plan 2030.

#### iv) Webcargo

#### Online booking and payment platform

Singapore Airlines has integrated its cargo capacity into the online booking and payment platform WebCargo, broadening its booking avenues and expanding its customer base.

This collaboration links Singapore Airlines with a multitude of freight forwarders utilizing WebCargo's real-time air cargo pricing and booking functionalities. Simultaneously, users of WebCargo gain enhanced access to destinations across the Asia Pacific region, including Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia, Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam. Platform coverage is expected to further expand throughout the year.

WebCargo's partnership with Singapore Airlines marks a significant stride in its efforts to extend its presence in the Asia-Pacific area.

The utilization of digital bookings for shipments originating from Asia on Freightos-owned WebCargo saw a notable increase, more than doubling between the fourth quarter of 2022 and the fourth quarter of 2023.

# **SAAA@Singapore Events**

#### A) 2023 Events

#### i) Vietnam Delegates Tour Changi Airfreight Centre

In collaboration with Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS), Ministry of Transport (MOT), Changi Airport Group (CAG), SATS and dnata Singapore, SAAA@Singapore welcomed 17 Vietnam delegates from the Agency of Foreign Trade (Ministry of Industry and Trade) and logistical companies on 4 April 2023 into the 47 hectares Free Trade Zone to visit dnata's Coolchain and to hear from Industry leaders on the highlights of the Industrial and state logistical development and technologies.

Singapore and Vietnam share strong economic ties and are without a doubt, long-standing friends and close partners.

This valuable visit provided the opportunity to reaffirm the strong friendship and cooperation between the two countries. It further bridged the bilateral ties and certainly broadens prospects to

further enhance the economic and trade cooperation. May the partnership between Singapore and Vietnam and friendship between the peoples continue to grow and flourish in the years ahead.

#### ii) CBTA Center Conference 2023: İstanbul, Türkiye

In conjunction with IATA World Cargo Symposium (WCS), the CBTA Center Conference was hosted by IATA in Istanbul, Türkiye on 24 April 2023. Ms Pauline Tok, SAAA Executive Director, had been invited to participate as a speaker at the function.

The event was well attended, with various delegates from different CBTA Centers and stakeholders to discuss and share best practices, challenges, regulatory changes, guidelines, market outlook and opportunities in the field of competency-based training and assessment. The CBTA Center Conference proved to be an excellent platform to exchange experiences, shed light on the evolving training and education landscapes and explore methodologies to enhance training quality and efficiencies.

An award ceremony was held to recognize the Top Performing CBTA Center, acknowledging their exceptional contributions and commitment to maintaining high standards in competency-based training and assessment (CBTA). The conference concluded with closing remarks, emphasizing the importance of ongoing collaboration and innovation in advancing competency-based training and assessment practices.

#### iii) Air Cargo Tech Fest 2023

The Air Cargo Tech Fest 2023 was held at Singapore Expo on 22 May 2023.

The event had featured talks and a panel discussion from expert speakers (E.g. CAG, ICA, Speedcargo and IATA) on the various tech-enabled solutions of which the members community can embark on with coordinated funding support from Workforce Singapore (WSG). There were also exhibition displays of Speedcargo, CCN and GUUD - a further emphasis on the available technology around us! SAAA@Singapore encourages members to Invest in innovation, expand the training landscape to reskill and upskill your manpower to stay competitive, increase productivity and seize new opportunities.

#### iv) CAAS Safety Series 2023

The CAAS Safety Series was launched in early 2011 as a platform to better engage the aviation industry on developments in safety policies and regulations, as well as to discuss the impact of new safety programmes on the industry.

This year's CAAS Safety Series: Preventing Carriage of Undeclared Dangerous Goods in Cargo Consignment was held at the Singapore Aviation Academy on 23 May 2023.

The session focused on the regulations in ANR-92 on the shipper's and operator's responsibilities. The participants had the opportunity to hear from industry experts on their best practices, initiatives and processes in preventing undeclared dangerous goods from being transported by air. Ms Pauline Tok, SAAA Executive Director, was invited to participate as both a speaker and panelist to share and discuss on the compliance of Dangerous Goods Regulations. The event concluded with an interactive question and answer segment with the audience to seek any clarification on the regulations.

#### v) Investiture of the National Awards (COVID-19)

On 18 June 2023, President Halimah Yacob presented the National Awards (COVID-19) to over 100 individuals and 450 teams in five award categories: Meritorious Service Medal (COVID-19), Public Service Star (COVID-19), Public Administration Medal (Gold) (COVID-19), Medal of Valour (COVID-19), and President's Certificate of Commendation (COVID-19).

The investiture was attended by around 850 people, including Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.

Mr Steven Lee, represented SAAA@Singapore, to receive the President's Certificate of Commendation (COVID-19). The National Awards (COVID-19) are special state awards given to individuals and teams from the public, private and people sectors in recognition of their public spirit and outstanding contributions to Singapore's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

SAAA@Singapore is honored to be recognized for its efforts in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. The Association will continue to strive on this journey, together with the members to face the future challenges together.

#### vi) Regulatory Compliance Requirements on Dangerous Goods Handling

In collaboration with Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS), SAAA organized a Regulatory Compliance Requirements on Dangerous Goods (DG) Handling session at CT Hub on 28 July 2023.

The session featured presentations from expert speakers on the importance of regulatory compliance in the transport of DG by Air. This was followed by an interactive Q & A session - a strong opportunity for the attendees to gain further clarifications on the regulations surrounding the transport of Dangerous Goods. All in all, the session was well attended by 17 shippers and ended on a good note.

It is critically important for the relevant staff of the Supply Chain to be well informed and familiar with the DG transport regulations and requirements. SAAA will definitely conduct further similar sessions to reach out consistently to educate the different communities.

#### vii) OneAviation Career Fair

Organised by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, National Trades Union Congress, Employment and Employability Institute, and Workforce Singapore, the OneAviation Careers Fair 2023 was held at Suntec City Convention Centre (Halls 404-405) from 4-5 August 2023.

The fair consisted of over 20 aviation employers, educational institutions and partners showcasing on the various career opportunities, technology and innovation in the sector. The event was open to the public, and walk-in interviews by hiring aviation employers were also conducted on-site. On-site career coaching with experienced career coaches was available.

In strong support, SAAA participated as an exhibitor of the OneAviation Career Fair. Mr. Paul Teo, SAAA First Deputy Chairman, had been invited onstage to partake in the opening ceremony and Mr. Jimmy Ler, SAAA Honorary Treasurer, actively participated as part of the panel discussion for the themed career talks.

#### viii) SAAA-IATA Air Cargo Day 2023

On 31 October 2023, SAAA@Singapore, in collaboration with IATA, organized the 4th edition of the SAAA-IATA Air Cargo Day 2023 at Singapore Expo@Max Atria. The event was graced by the Guest of Honour Mr Chee Hong Tat, Acting Minister for Transport.

With the theme "P.A.S.S (Propel Aviation Standards and Safety)," this event featured insightful presentations from expert speakers on various important topics, including air cargo trends, cargo digital transformation, reskilling, cargo safety regarding lithium batteries, and sustainability. Following the presentations, an interactive panel discussion provided an opportunity to delve deeper into the subjects of safety and standards.

Two award ceremonies took place: Singapore Airlines received the CEIV Fresh certification in recognition of their commitment to excellent service and their responsible role in creating a sustainable supply chain. Additionally, SAAA@Singapore was re-certified for the Competency-based training and assessment (CBTA), further highlighting their dedication to quality and their valuable contributions to the CBTA Center program.

The SAAA-IATA Air Cargo Day 2023 attracted a strong presence from the logistics community, airlines, shippers, associations, and government agencies. The event was a resounding success, and it concluded with exciting rounds of lucky draws, with congratulations extended to the fortunate winners.

#### ix) SAAA-IATA Air Cargo Day 2023

The transport logistic and air cargo Southeast Asia (tlac SEA) 2023, which took place from 1 to 3 November 2023 at the Sands Expo & Convention Centre, was the most recent installment of the world's largest trade show for the transportation logistics and air cargo industry.

This event provided an influential platform for professionals in logistics, mobility, IT, and supply chain management in the Southeast Asia (SEA) region. With over 4000 attendees, including important buyers from Southeast Asia, it acted as an ideal meeting place for industry professionals.

The strategic supporting organization for tlac SEA 2023 was SAAA@Singapore, in collaboration with Enterprise Singapore (ESG), which offered potential funding for exhibition opportunities at the Singapore Pavilion. A total of 23 exhibitors took advantage of this opportunity to gain a competitive edge, gathering new leads and expand their reach internationally. Overall, the event was well-attended and successful.

#### x) SAAA 49th AGM 2023

On 10 November 2023, SAAA had a successful 49th AGM at the new location: Dusit Thani Laguna Singapore, with 27 Ordinary members and 11 Associate and guests in attendance. It was an enjoyable lunch in interaction with the members.

Mr Ken Chua, SAAA Honorary Secretary, shared with the attendees on the financial summary and budget of SAAA@Singapore, the past and upcoming SAAA@Singaporre events, future goals and the new initiatives such as the Members Corner.

The SAAA 49th AGM had unanimously approved upon the adoption of the minutes of the 48th AGM 2022 held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022, the receipt and adoption of the council's report and audited accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022, the annual subscription and entrance fees for

ensuing financial year, the appointment of Thong & Lim as the external auditor for the Financial Year 2023 and lastly, the approval of the Budget for the ensuing year 2023. There was no election.

The session concluded with a brief speech from Mr Steven Lee, SAAA Chairman, and Mr Ken Chua expressing thanks to the members for their continued support to the Association.

#### **B) 2024 Events**

#### i) Automating Document Data Extraction & other Work processes with Gen Al

In collaboration with Republic Polytechnic (Supply Chain Management, Centre of Innovation), SAAA organized the first ZOOM virtual sharing of this New Year 2024 titled, "Automating Doc Data Extraction and Other Work Processes with Gen AI" on 30 January 2024.

The session was well attended by over 60 delegates and comprised of a detailed sharing on the different initiatives and applications which companies can consider to apply together with ChatGPT. For example, this can be in the form of structured data, demand forecasting, personalized learning and training. Republic Polytechnic (Supply Chain Management, Centre of Innovation) can assist Singapore-based companies to develop and strengthen supply chain and logistics expertise. The online session concluded with an interactive Q&A session. All in all, it was a fruitful sharing and if there are any interested parties, please feel free to write in to SAAA.

#### ii) SAAA CNY Dinner 2024

SAAA hosted a delightful Chinese New Year celebration at Tampines Tanah Merah Country Club on 2 February 2024.

The event brought together over 160 delegates and kicked off with an enchanting dragon dance, live music, and a variety of delicious food and drinks.

SAAA extends special thanks to Workforce Singapore (WSG) for their unwavering support as the event partner, and to the sponsors for the fantastic dragon dance and thrilling lucky draw. The evening ended with cheerful conversations, laughter, and strengthened community bonds. Congratulations to all the lucky draw winners!

#### iii) SAAA Fun Bowling 2024

On 3 March 2024, the SAAA Fun Bowling 2024 began with a competitive showdown between 13 teams vying for the SAAA 2024 Bowling Championship.

During the thrilling matches, everyone enjoyed a delicious bento lunch in between. The competition showcased impressive skills, and SAAA is delighted to announce this year's winners.

The results are as follows:

Winning	<b>Position</b>	Company	Name
-		1 7	

Champion SATS Airport Services Pte Ltd

2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up Morrison Express Logistics Pte Ltd

3<sup>rd</sup> Runner Up Schenker Singapore (Pte) Ltd

Fourth MOL Logistics (Singapore) Pte Ltd

Yusen Logistics (Singapore) Pte Ltd

Congratulations to the winners! SAAA extends gratitude to all participants for their enthusiastic support. Looking ahead, SAAA is excited to host next year's bowling event, providing members with another opportunity to come together, have fun, and strengthen their bonds.

#### iv) Environmental Sustainability & Networked Trade Platform 2024

The Environmental Sustainability & Networked Trade Platform 2024 featured talks from Singapore Customs and CCCS on the Networked Trade Platform and guidance note on environmental sustainability.

The event was well attended by over 40 members and concluded with an interactive panel discussion facilitated by Enterprise Singapore (ESG).

Prepared by: Ms Pammie Loh Vetted by: Ms Pauline Tok

Approved by: Mr Steven Lee and Mr Jimmy Ler