

Nanyang Technological University in Singapore to Offer New Aerospace Engineering Degree

Professor Shaker Meguid, 2002 Shot Peener of the Year, is the leader of the program's task force.



Professor Shaker Meguid from MAE is the leader of the task force which was formed to oversee the initiation and development of this aerospace programme.

"This is the only Aerospace Engineering Degree in Singapore and it needs to live up to the expectation of all concerned—students, parents, and the aerospace industry. It will emphasise both design, manufacture and MRO. As such it will give due attention to surface engineering and shot peening.

—Professor Shaker Meguid

In July 2005, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) will offer a new four-year Bachelor of Engineering in Aerospace. The first of its kind in Singapore, the degree aims to produce engineers who are well-trained in the fundamentals of aerospace engineering with in-depth and integrated system view of the field to support the aerospace industry.

The new degree in aerospace engineering is aimed at facilitating the growth of the aviation market. The local aerospace sector, with an output of S\$3.8 billion last year, is expected to experience sustained phenomenal growth in the coming years. Most major aerospace repair and overhaul in the Asia Pacific region are currently being carried out here. And with many aerospace companies moving into design and engineering activities to take advantage of Singapore's strengths in this area, Singapore is well on its way to becoming a global aviation hub for commercial, business, cargo, charter and regional tourism.

Professor Lim Mong King, Deputy President and Dean of College of Engineering, elaborates, "The programme is a joint initiative in the College of Engineering. Due to its multidisciplinary nature, a holistic approach, involving the School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering and the School of Material Engineering, will be adopted to support the new degree. This traversing between the different disciplines is essential for the proper training of the students to meet the requirements of the aviation industry."

The new aerospace degree will be offered by the School of Mechanical & Production Engineering (MAE). Prof Yue Chee Yoon, Dean of MAE, anticipates strong student enrollment for the new programme. "This being the only aerospace engineering degree programme in Singapore, admission is likely to be highly competitive. We expect the first cohort to fill up fast."

Representatives from the programme's task force met with the Republic of Singapore Air Force as well as major players in the local aviation industry. Their responses have been overwhelming, underscoring their unanimous support of the new initiative and the need for such a degree. In fact, the industry has promised to commit a number of scholarships for this degree.

News of the new degree programme will be welcomed by students from Ngee Ann and Singapore Polytechnics who are currently studying aerospace engineering. Mr James Leung, Senior Lecturer in the Aerospace Technology Programme at Ngee Ann Polytechnic shares, "We are very pleased to learn of this initiative. Our students will now have the opportunity to enroll into this degree programme to upgrade their skills, enhance their careers and fulfill their aspirations!"



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