

Preliminary Report and Public Notice on serious incident of Airbus A330-343 P2F and Boeing 777-200F freighters released

The Air Accident Investigation Authority (AAIA) released the Preliminary Report and Public Notice PLR-2025-01 on a serious incident concerning the loss of separation between an Airbus A330-343 P2F freighter operated by MNG Airlines (registration mark TC-MCN) and a Boeing 777-200F freighter operated by Silk Road Western Airlines (registration mark VP-BMU) after take-off at Hong Kong International Airport on February 27, 2025.

A spokesperson for the AAIA said that the Preliminary Report has been published to provide factual information established in the investigation's early evidence collection phase to both the aviation industry and the general public in a timely manner, and should be regarded as tentative. The full report is available for download from the AAIA webpage (www.tlb.gov.hk/aaia/eng/investigation_reports/index.html).

"The investigation team is conducting a detailed analysis of the data and information collected in order to determine the circumstances and causes of this occurrence with a view to preventing a recurrence in conjunction with identifying areas for further investigation or lines of inquiry to follow up," the spokesperson said.

The AAIA, an independent investigation authority formed under the Transport and Logistics Bureau, is responsible for the investigation of civil aircraft accidents and incidents in accordance with the Hong Kong Civil Aviation (Investigation of Accidents) Regulations (Cap. 448B) and with reference to the International Civil Aviation Organization's standards.

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Speech by SITI at Laservall – “From Hong Kong To Global: The Future of Advanced Manufacturing and Microelectronics” (English only)

Following is the speech by the Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Professor Sun Dong, at the Laservall – "From Hong Kong To Global: The Future of Advanced Manufacturing and Microelectronics" event today (March 31):

Ms Lee (Korean Consul (Commerce), Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Hong Kong, Ms Jaeyon Lee), James (Chairman of Laservall, Mr James Kang), Andrew (Chief Executive Officer of Laservall, Mr Andrew Kim), Albert (Chief Executive Officer of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, Mr Albert Wong), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning. It is my pleasure to stand before you today to celebrate Laservall's global expansion in Hong Kong – a milestone that marks the company's distinctive success achieved in developing advanced high-precision laser inter-connect solutions and automation system for advanced manufacturing.

Founded in Hong Kong in 2003 and commencing its amazing journey at the Hong Kong Science Park in 2024, a cradle that nurtures thousands of innovation and technology (I&T) companies, Laservall has evolved into a world leader in the advanced manufacturing industry today. With its extensive clientele including some renowned global brands in the industry of smartphone camera modules, electronics and automotive, Laservall continues to expand its operations with R&D (research and development) centres and production facilities across Asia.

We are so excited to witness Laservall's success today, as advanced manufacturing has been a pivotal sector and significant power engine to drive the development of new industrialisation in Hong Kong.

Following the promulgation of the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint in December 2022, the Hong Kong SAR Government has been actively promoting new industrialisation through supporting the advanced manufacturing industries and encouraging the upgrading and transformation of traditional manufacturing sector through the use of I&T, with the aim of driving sustainable economic growth and creating high-quality employment opportunities.

To bolster the development of new industrialisation, our Government has stepped up its efforts by implementing a series of supporting policies and measures. For example, the New Industrialisation Funding Scheme was enhanced to reinforce our efforts in supporting enterprises to adopt smart manufacturing. As of February 2025, the scheme had supported more than 100 new smart production lines. To extend our dedication, we launched the New Industrialisation Acceleration Scheme last year to provide funding support for enterprises engaging in industries of strategic importance. We will also earmark another \$100 million for the Pilot Manufacturing and Production Line Upgrade Support Scheme to provide financial support to companies setting up smart production facilities in Hong Kong.

Today, Laservall announces its plan of investing \$300 million over the next five years and doubling the size of R&D team by 2026, and extending their R&D team eventually by sixfold by 2028. This not only reflects the company's commitment to innovation but also its unwavering confidence in Hong Kong's I&T industry. Its expansion at the Science Park is a perfect example of how it is leveraging Hong Kong's unique role as a "super-connector" and a "super value-adder" to strengthen its presence in the global market.

May I once again extend my sincere congratulations to Laservall for its outstanding I&T achievement. I am confident that we will soon witness more local companies, like Laservall, stepping onto the global I&T stage and demonstrating the remarkable outcomes of Hong Kong's R&D capabilities to the world in the near future. Thank you.

Postal services to Slovakia subject to delay

â€‹Hongkong Post announced today (March 31) that, as advised by the postal administration of Slovakia, due to the impact of local control measures on an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, mail delivery services to areas with postcodes 93003, 93004, 93006 and 93007 are subject to delay.