

Maldives Airports Company Limited Press Release

Velana International Airport celebrates 30 years of service by Emirates to Maldives



Velana International Airport, Maldives – 24th May 2017– Velana International Airport (VIA) celebrated Emirates 30 years of service to Maldives. An official water salute welcomed Emirates first flight of the day with an official function held at Maamehi Lounge at Velana International Airport.

The function was joined by the Managing Director of Maldives Airports Ltd (MACL) Mr. Adil Moosa, Representative of Maldives Civil Aviation Ms. Fathimath Raamiza, and Emirates District Manager Mr. Darrell Soertsz along with representatives of airport related institutions, staff of MACL and Emirates .

MACL MD Mr. Adil Moosa and Emirates District Manager Mr. Darrell Soertsz gave speeches at the function and corporate gifts were exchanged between the two companies. Moreover a ceremonial cake was cut and group photos were taken on the occasion. The function was concluded after refreshments.

At the function MD of MACL Mr. Adil Moosa emphasized on Emirates contribution to Maldives Tourism & trade and also congratulated Emirates for their 30 years of operations in the Maldives. Emirates District Manager Mr. Darrell Soertsz stated that Emirates has played an important part in Maldives with their huge number of passenger traffic & air cargo services. He also thanked Universal Enterprise and MACL for their continued support over the years.

Emirates Maldives Milestone

Emirates Airlines commenced its operations on May 1987 with a B727 aircraft. Back then Emirates operated 02 flights a week with a capacity of 189 seats each.

- October 1998 Emirates appoints Universal Enterprises as passenger Sales Agent (PSA)
- December 2000 Emirates appoints Universal Enterprises as Cargo Sales Agent

- March 2004 Emirates adds 5 new services a week to Malé,
- January 2005 Emirates opens new office amalgamating Emirates City office & PSA office

- April 2005 Emirates SkyCargo launches ADX (Airport-to-Door) and DDX (Door-to-Door in Malé

- 2006 Emirates becomes first airline to open a cargo operations office at Then Male International Airport present Velana International Airport

- August 2010 Emirates launches daily flights from Malé to Colombo
- September 2012 Emirates voted Best Airline in the Maldives – Maldives Association of Travel Agents & Tour Operators (MATATO).

- December 2014 Emirates adds third daily flight from Malé to Dubai

Now Emirates operates daily 4 flights (B777 – 300 ER) with a capacity of 360 seats on each flight.(3 flights to Dubai and 1 flight to Colombo)

About Maldives Airports Company Ltd

Maldives Airports Company Limited (MACL) is a 100% government owned limited liability company incorporated under the Companies Act of the Rep of Maldives. MACL is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Privatisation & Corporatisation Board of the Maldives. The Corporate Office of MACL is on the island of Hulhule', Republic of Maldives

Maldives Airports Company is the operator of Velana International Airport and has been massively involved in destination marketing and bringing in new airlines to the Maldives to boost up the tourism industry. MACL has embarked on one of the biggest projects in the history of Maldives in developing the future Velana International Airport such as the development of a brand new international passenger terminal, a new code F runway, a new cargo terminal complex and a new fuel farm along with hydrant system and major infrastructure developments at Velana international Airport

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