As announced in the second edition of Asian Breeze, Airport Coordination Australia (ACA) kindly sent us an article featuring Easter & slot situation in Australia. For those who are not familiar with Christian religion including the chief editor, a little explanation about Easter is given hereunder.

Easter is the most important religious feast in the Christian liturgical year. Christians believe that Jesus was resurrected from the dead three days after crucifixion. Many Christian denominations celebrate this resurrection on Easter Day (Resurrection Day). Easter is a moveable feast, meaning it is not fixed in relation to the Calendar. Easter falls at some point between late March and late April each year following the cycle of the Moon. This year is April 12 for Western Christianity and April 19 for Eastern Christianity.

After a long hot summer in Australia with bushfires, floods, cyclones and sharks we are all looking forward to slightly cooler weather and of course the Easter Bunny. The hot cross buns are in the oven and the supermarket shelves are stocked with all kinds of chocolaty treats for young and old. One special Australian Easter treat is the Easter Bilby.

The Bilby is only found in Northern Australia. It is a marsupial mammal which belongs to the bandicoot family and is about the size of a rabbit, they are endangered with only 500 left in the wild. To raise money for the Bilby’s plight the Anti-Rabbit research Foundation of Australia started making their own chocolate Easter Bilby’s to replace the traditional bunnies. All Australian’s are encouraged to buy the Bilby’s instead of the Bunnies for Easter… and they taste just as good!!

Airport Coordination Australia (ACA) is an independent non-profit company that was established in 1998 to administer the Sydney Airport Demand Management Act that limits runway movements to 80 in an hour. Sydney is the only airport in Australia with a runway limitation. ACA coordinated eight Level 3 airports in Australia which all have apron parking and terminal passenger flow
constraints. Abu Dhabi airport in the UAE is a Level 2 airport coordinated by ACA.

At Sydney the Act requires ACA to check that airlines use allocated slots within a tolerance of 15 minutes for flights under 3 hours and 30 minutes for flights over 3 hours. For flights out of tolerance airlines need to report the reasons for delay.

Self Introduction of our staff members

Ernst Krolke - Chief Executive Officer
I have been involved in airline planning and coordination for nearly 40 years and moved to ACA in 1998. Since 1981 I have been involved in the IATA scheduling process with Scheduling Procedures Committee (SPC) and Joint Scheduling Advisory Group (JSAG) and Schedules Information Standards Committee (SISC), the IATA Congestion Task Force and Air Transport Action Group (ATAG).

Petra Krolke - Manager Coordination
I have worked for ACA for five years now and along with the overall management of the schedule I am also the coordinator for the W08 season in Australia and both seasons for Abu Dhabi. I am also involved with the compliance scheme which operates at Sydney. When I'm not at the airport I am on the basketball court, studying for my masters in commerce or at the beach with my golden retriever Bill.

Claudia Guth - Coordinator
I have worked as a coordinator for ACA for 18months and I have a background in the hospitality industry. In my spare time I enjoy cooking for friends, spending time with my baby nephew and traveling.
Introduction of our computer system

In 1998 we purchased the coordination system developed by GSL (Gatwick Software Logistics). It is an extremely flexible system that allows us to allocate slot, run the compliance and a large range of reports and graphs. The system is also being used by the Netherlands and Taiwan. Some examples of the output can be seen on our website http://www.coordaus.com.au/.

Slot Situation in Australia

At Adelaide and Sydney airports we have night jet curfews from 23:00 to 06:00 that are absolute and infringements will incur heavy fines. At Sydney runway movements are limited to 80 per hour for environmental reasons. Peak periods are Monday to Friday 07:00 to 10:00 and Sunday to Friday 17:00 to 20:00. As the international arrival and departure peak is in the morning, apron space at Terminal 1 is full between 07:15 and 09:30 daily. The morning peak periods are also close to full at Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Gold Coast and Melbourne. Perth is short of terminal capacity most of the day.

Location of our office

Our office is located on level 3 - suite 1227 of the Sydney Airport International Terminal (T1). We have a great position as we are close to the Sydney Airport Corporation and all International Airlines which aids in communication with our main stakeholders. Next time you come through Sydney which we hope will be soon please stop by our office for a Tim Tam.

From the Chief Editor

Thank ACA for your wonderful contribution. While the season in Australia is shifting to autumn, that in Japan is shifting to spring. Now is the time for cherry blossom season in Japan. The cherry trees are almost 100% bloom now in Tokyo. There will be a lot of flower viewing parties from this week end to next. You may be surprised that people enjoy lots of beer, wine, ‘Sake’ and even ‘Karaoke’ under the cherry trees. You may feel crazy but it is fun.

In circulating the fourth edition in June, I am seriously looking for a volunteer to send us an article. Committed to continue to circulate Asian Breeze, we would appreciate it if you would send us in hot news or topics of your office, new airport developments or whatever through ‘asianbreeze@schedule-coordination.jp’. We will greatly appreciate for your cooperation.