Dear Coordinators and Facilitators in Asia/Pacific region.

Too late it may sound to say “A Happy New Year of 2017!” However, a New Year of 2017 was just on Saturday January 28 according to Chinese calendar.

Chinese New Year, also known as Spring Festival “春節”, is China’s most important traditional festival. It is also the most important celebration for families, and a week of official public holiday.

2017 is a year of the Rooster according to the Chinese 12 year animal zodiac cycle. Occupying the 10th position on the Chinese Zodiac, the Rooster possesses excellent characteristics, such as being honest, bright, communicative and ambitious. Most of them are born pretty or handsome, and prefer to dress up. In daily life, they seldom rely on others. However, they might be enthusiastic about something quickly, but soon be impassive. Thus, they need to have enough faiths and patience to insist on one thing.

If you were born in 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, then you’re a Rooster. Does this statement represent your personality correctly?

For this issue, I have received a wonderful contribution from Ms. Kazue Ishiwata, senior manager, Air Service Development, featuring her organization and the Seattle - Tacoma International Airport (SEA). I hope you will find it interesting.

Seattle - Tacoma International Airport (SEA)

Seattle - Tacoma International Airport (IATA: SEA, ICAO: KSEA) is the largest airport in the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. It is in the eponymous city of SeaTac, Washington, about twelve miles south of downtown Seattle and is the primary airport for the Seattle metropolitan area.

The airport has flights to cities throughout North America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. It is the main hub for Alaska Airlines and its regional subsidiary Horizon Air, whose headquarters are near the airport. It is a hub and international
gateway to Asia and Europe for Delta Air Lines, which has expanded at Sea-Tac since 2011.

Operated by the Port of Seattle, Seattle - Tacoma International Airport is a world-class facility with a regional economic impact of over $16.3 billion. Sea - Tac generates more than 171,796 jobs (109,924 direct jobs) representing more than $2.8 billion in direct earnings and $565 million in state and local taxes. Twenty-two scheduled passenger airlines serve 77 non-stop domestic destinations and 22 international cities.

In 2015 the airport served over 42 million passengers. It is categorized in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems for 2015 - 2019 as a primary commercial service (large hub) airport based on 16,121,123 enplanements in 2012. The airport is the largest generator of vehicle trips in the state, and its 13,000-car parking garage is North America's largest parking structure under one roof.

### Air Transport Statistics

#### (1) Aircraft Movements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
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<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carrier</td>
<td>220,786</td>
<td>210,603</td>
<td>250,605</td>
<td>254,829</td>
<td>253,507</td>
<td>276,954</td>
<td>306,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>143,949</td>
<td>144,167</td>
<td>108,289</td>
<td>86,933</td>
<td>86,551</td>
<td>70,092</td>
<td>38,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>364,735</td>
<td>354,770</td>
<td>358,894</td>
<td>341,762</td>
<td>340,058</td>
<td>347,046</td>
<td>345,047</td>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carrier</td>
<td>297,621</td>
<td>292,016</td>
<td>295,763</td>
<td>291,664</td>
<td>299,156</td>
<td>325,425</td>
<td>368,722</td>
<td>399,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>20,252</td>
<td>21,938</td>
<td>19,184</td>
<td>17,933</td>
<td>18,030</td>
<td>15,053</td>
<td>12,686</td>
<td>12,428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>317,873</td>
<td>313,954</td>
<td>314,947</td>
<td>309,597</td>
<td>317,186</td>
<td>340,478</td>
<td>381,408</td>
<td>412,170</td>
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#### (2) Air Passengers

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<th>2002</th>
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<th>2006</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dom</td>
<td>24,440,713</td>
<td>24,527,470</td>
<td>26,368,448</td>
<td>26,817,991</td>
<td>27,517,599</td>
<td>28,585,819</td>
<td>29,274,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Int</td>
<td>2,297,845</td>
<td>2,272,443</td>
<td>2,436,106</td>
<td>2,471,035</td>
<td>2,710,035</td>
<td>2,478,825</td>
<td>2,922,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26,738,558</td>
<td>26,799,913</td>
<td>28,804,554</td>
<td>29,298,026</td>
<td>29,927,634</td>
<td>31,057,654</td>
<td>32,196,528</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dom</td>
<td>28,593,782</td>
<td>28,745,014</td>
<td>29,838,192</td>
<td>29,975,042</td>
<td>31,247,376</td>
<td>33,675,719</td>
<td>37,960,191</td>
<td>40,870,654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>31,227,512</td>
<td>31,553,166</td>
<td>32,823,220</td>
<td>33,223,111</td>
<td>34,826,741</td>
<td>37,498,267</td>
<td>42,340,537</td>
<td>45,736,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As shown in the above graphs, both aircraft movements and air passengers are increasing rapidly in recent years. For aircraft movements, it is expanding rapidly from 2012 to 2016, with the growth rate of 8% from the previous year. For air passengers, it is expanding rapidly from 2009 to 2016, with the growth rate of 8% from the previous year.

SEA currently serves 91 domestic destinations in U.S. and 25 international destinations (15 intercontinental and 10 in Canada/ Mexico) shown above.

There are three close parallel runways at this airport. The runway (16L/34R) is 3,627m, the longest runway close
to the terminal. The runway (16C/34C) is 2,873m located in the center. The runway (16R/34L) is 2,591m. They are aligned almost from north to south.

The airport has a Main Terminal building, which was renovated and expanded in 2003. The airport also has four concourses (A, B, C, D) and two Satellite Terminals (North and South). The satellite terminals are connected to the main terminal by an underground people mover system made by Bombardier. There are five security checkpoints at Sea-Tac but one is only used for cruise passengers during peak periods. Once through security, passengers have access to all gates.

The main feature of Sea-Tac Airport's Main Terminal is a grand civic space. The Pacific Marketplace is a city streetscape, a scene of the Northwest community complete with shops, restaurants, landscaping, a view to the airfield, and public art. The gathering place, designed by Fentress Bradburn Architects,
encompasses 60,000 square feet with a 60-foot tall ceiling and a west-facing structural glass curtain wall. During the day, the large expanse of glass floods the space with sparkle and light; at night, the glowing room becomes a beacon. This interior space feels like an outdoor room.

- Concourse A has 14 gates (A1–A14).
- Concourse B has 13 gates (B1, B3–B12, B14–B15).
- Concourse C has 7 gates (C3, C9, C11, C15, C17–C18, C20).
- 15 parking slips (Q1-Q8, Q10, Q12, Q13-Q16, Q18).
- Concourse D has 10 gates (D1–D5, D7–D11).

(D6 was removed to create space for American Boeing 757 operations at D7).

**North Satellite Terminal**

The north satellite, Concourse C and D and the south satellite terminal are connected by underground train.

- The North Satellite has 12 gates (N1–N3, N6–N11, N14–N16).
- 5 Parking Slips (N12A–N12E)

**South Satellite Terminal**

International flights arrive at the South Satellite Terminal. Passengers first clear Passport Control and then pick up their checked luggage and proceed to Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Passengers then can recheck their bags and either proceed through security screening for connecting flights, or transport via subway to the Main Terminal Baggage Claim to collect their bags. The south satellite, Concourse A and B and the north satellite terminal are connected by underground train.

- The South Satellite has 13 gates (S1–S12, S15).
- 1 parking slip (S1A)
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection facilities for international arrivals.
**North Satellite Modernization**

The North Satellite Modernization Project is the expansion and renovation of a 45-year-old facility to better serve passengers with more choices and amenities for an enhanced travel experience. This investment by the Port of Seattle and Alaska Airlines will be built to preserve resources and meet our strict sustainability standards. The entire venue will open up with natural light and views of the airfield and mountains, befitting of a world-class airport.

**International Arrivals Facility**

The Port of Seattle is building a new, expanded International Arrivals Facility (IAF) at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport to significantly enhance the international passenger experience, advance the Puget Sound region as a leading tourism and business gateway and serve the traveling public well into the future.

With this 1970s vintage facility in the south satellite servicing a dramatic increase in international flights, the existing Federal Inspections area (commonly known as customs) is beyond its peak capacity. The new facility will also help drive the port’s Century Agenda strategy to double the number of international flights and destinations over 25 years.

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**Introduction of computer system**

SEA is currently using “Inform Groundstar” as the gate management software. For schedule coordination software, SEA is now searching the right software to conduct the business for their needs.
I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Ms. Kazue Ishiwata for her excellent contribution to Asian Breeze (50). I learnt a lot from this article that Seattle - Tacoma International Airport (SEA) is expanding rapidly as a gateway for Asia/Pacific regions. I was so impressed with the first picture of SEA that there is Mt. Fuji like mountain behind the airport. This is Mount Rainier or Mount Tacoma which is the highest mountain (4,392m) of the Cascade Range, much higher than Mt. Fuji (3,776m). As the picture gives Japanese a sense of intimacy, I surely would use SEA when I visit the USA next time.

I also learnt that Kazue-san was born, raised and educated in Tokyo, and after graduating college she came to Seattle with just two suitcases and a one-way ticket looking for a new life. What an adventurous life she had! She now plays an important role as a senior Manager of Air Service Development of SEA promoting the airport sales. I am confident that the sharp increase of air traffic and air passengers can be attributed to her and her staff. I
sincerely hope SEA will continue to expand by extending more destinations to Asia/Pacific region in the future too.

The 68\textsuperscript{th} Sapporo Snow Festival (2017) was held from February 6 (Mon.) to 12 (Sun.) in Sapporo, Hokkaido. The Sapporo Snow Festival, one of Japan's largest winter events, attracts a growing number of visitors from Japan and abroad every year. This year, about 2.6 million people came to Sapporo to see a large number of splendid snow and ice sculptures (about 250) lining Odori Park, the grounds at Community Dome Tsudome, and along the main street in Susukino. During the festival in February, Sapporo is turned into a winter dreamland of crystal-like ice and white snow. Please come and visit Sapporo Snow Festival next year. (H.T.)