



ACI ASIA-PACIFIC

YOUNG EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD 2019

Programme Details



Background and Objectives

The ACI Asia-Pacific Young Executive of the Year Award (YEA) is an annual research paper competition which encourages young talents in the Asia-Pacific region to contribute innovative solutions for current aviation industry issues since its introduction in 2009.

Topic of YEA 2019

How can airports understand and capitalize on their passengers' needs to advance their strategic visions?

Over the past 20 years, it has become easier and more affordable to travel, and passengers' expectations had evolved drastically since then. Only airports that can deliver efficient processes, attentive customer services and beyond can stand a chance to attract and retain more passengers in the competitive airport industry. Through understanding the characteristics of passengers and recent market trends in the dynamic Asia-Pacific region, airports can identify and analyze their passengers' needs and expectations, which is the crucial first step to contribute to the airport's strategic vision and sustainable business growth in the long run.

In the research paper, the candidate may:

- Analyze existing ways of passenger profiling in airports;
- Suggest innovative alternatives to know more about passengers' needs and expectations;
- Demonstrate how to align passengers' needs and expectations with the demands of other essential airport stakeholders that can ultimately benefit the airports' strategic vision and sustainable business growth.

Eligibility

Each ACI Asia-Pacific airport member in good standing is entitled to nominate ONE candidate for this competition. Each entry must be accompanied by a signed nomination letter from the CEO / ACI Official Representative of the airport supporting the nomination of the candidate. All candidates should be at or under the age of 35 at the deadline of submission. They should be currently serving in a middle management position at any ACI Asia-Pacific airport members and have a minimum of 2 years working experience in the aviation field.

The Winner

The outstanding young talent who contributes the best research paper on the topic will be honored as the ACI Asia-Pacific Young Executive of the Year. He / She will be invited to present the paper at the 2019 ACI Asia-Pacific / World Annual General Assembly, Conference and Exhibition on 2-4 April 2019 in Hong Kong. In addition, the winner will be awarded the air ticket and accommodation for attending the event, a cash reward of US\$1,000 as well as an Airport Management Professional Accreditation Programme (AMPAP) Fellowship.

Assessment Criteria

The candidate should be able to provide insightful and structural analysis with detailed observations and extensive research on the issue, demonstrate creativity and innovation to possible solutions, apply the concept in airports in general and show vision towards the future aviation industry. The paper will be assessed based on these criteria as well as writing skills. The assessment will be carried out by the following judges.

Panel of Judges

Panel Chairperson

**Sheikh Aimen bin
Ahmed AL-HOSNI
Chief Executive Officer
Oman Airports**



Sheikh Aimen serves as Chief Executive Officer of Oman Airports since May 2015. Oman Airports is responsible for managing and developing four civil airports in the Sultanate of Oman: Muscat, Salalah, Duqm and Sohar. His leadership is in the service of the national wide vision of establishing a safe, modern and customer centric aviation sector in line with Oman's 2040 vision.

Sheikh Aimen joined Oman Airports in 2012 as the General Manager of Muscat International Airport. He managed the flawless opening of the new Salalah Airport in 2015 and the successful opening of new Muscat International Airport in March 2018.

Sheikh Aimen's main focus is the transformation of Oman Airports to a dynamic customer centric and world-class airport operator. He welcomes the challenge of providing ever greater customer experiences to an ever-growing number of passengers. He is most proud of the achievements of Oman Airports, having won the 2018 World Travel Award for Middle East's Leading New Tourism Development Project. He is similarly proud of his team's strong Omanization rate of over 93%.

Over the last twenty years and prior to joining Oman airports, Sheikh Aimen held leadership positions within various multinational organizations. In addition to his current role at Oman Airports, he also holds various executive positions as a Board Member at ACI World and ACI Asia-Pacific, Oman National Investment and Engineering, Muscat Insurance Company, Omantel Telecommunication and HSBC Oman.

**Eric DELOBEL
Chief Executive Officer
Cambodia Airports**



Born in 1970, Mr. Delobel is graduate of the Ecole Spéciale des Travaux Publics (ESTP- TP94) and the Institut de l'Administration des Entreprises (IAE-CAAE 96).

Joining Quille (Bouygues Group) in 1995, he held various positions in the area of project management before moving into real estate development for Bouygues Immobilier, Hammerson, then Foruminvest as Director of programs and development, respectively.

After joining VINCI at the end of 2009, he moved to Slovakia at the beginning of 2010 as Chief Executive Officer of the Granvia concession company in charge of the funding, the design, the construction and the operation of the 52km R1-PR1bina expressway, which opened to traffic in October 2011.

He joined VINCI Airports in 2012 as Deputy Managing Director of the future Grand Ouest airport, with responsibility for its implementation and the transfer from Nantes Atlantique.

In 2014, Mr. Delobel was appointed Managing Director for West Region in France. He is a member of the VINCI Airports Executive Committee.

On 4 April 2016, he was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Cambodia Airports, the concession company in charge of operation and development of the three international airports of Cambodia.

Achim CZERNY
Associate Professor,
Department of Logistics
and Maritime Studies
Hong Kong Polytechnic
University



Dr. Czerny is an Associate Professor at the Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies (LMS), Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and Director of a new academic program in Aviation Management and Logistics.

He was previously employed as a researcher at the VU University of Amsterdam, Department of Spatial Economics, and an Assistant Professor of Regulatory Economics at the WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management. He studied Economics at the TU Berlin and holds a doctoral degree in Economics from the TU Berlin.

Dr. Czerny's research interests cover the full range of topics in transportation economics. He is the head of the local organizing committee of the International Transportation Economics Association (ITEA) school and conference hosted by LMS in 2018, a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the European Aviation Conference, and board member of the German Aviation Research Society (GARS).

He has published numerous research papers in transportation journals and economics journals. He was awarded with the Best Overall Paper Prize of the ITEA Conference on Transportation Economics (Kuhmo Nectar) 2014 (with Anming Zhang) and the Certificate of Excellence in Reviewing from Transportation Research Part B for the year 2013.

Manjit SINGH
Deputy Regional Director
Asia and Pacific Office, ICAO



Dr. Singh has been the Deputy Regional Director of the ICAO Asia Pacific Office in Bangkok, Thailand since April 2017. He had also previously served with ICAO Asia Pacific Office as the Regional Officer Technical Cooperation from May 2011 to December 2014.

He began his career in aviation with the Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) Malaysia as an Air Traffic Control Officer in June 1984. Over the years, he held different positions of increasing responsibilities within DCA Malaysia including as Director Air Traffic Services Inspectorate Division and eventually as Director of the Malaysia Aviation Academy (MAvA).

He holds a M.Sc. (Air Transport Management) as well as a PhD from Cranfield University, UK.

Patti CHAU
Regional Director
Airports Council International,
Asia-Pacific



Patti is the Regional Director of Airports Council International (ACI), Asia-Pacific based in Hong Kong.

Airports Council International (ACI) is the trade association for world's airports, representing 95% of total traffic worldwide. ACI advances the collective interests of, and acts as the voice of the world's airports and the communities they serve, and promotes professional excellence in airport management and operations. ACI Asia-Pacific is one of five regions of ACI that includes Asia and Australia/New Zealand and the Middle East.

Mrs. Chau is responsible for developing and leading the ACI Asia-Pacific region's efforts to enhance member services and grow membership while maintaining the mission of promoting the interests of 105 airport members from 48 countries / territories, operating 585 airports in the region.

Mrs. Chau is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) and holds a degree in Finance from Canada.

Testimonial from the ACI Asia-Pacific Young Executive of Year 2018

Andrew Warrender
Head of Commercial – Terminals
Northern Territory Airports Pty Ltd



Research Paper: How do airport commercial offerings maintain competitiveness in the era of E-Commerce?

“I am honoured to be chosen as the Young Executive of the Year for 2018. I was pleasantly surprised to be chosen given the standard of my fellow nominees submissions, each of which I feel would also deserve the recognition of the award. When I completed my submission, I was focused on the research and as an exercise I found this extremely rewarding. There have already been several benefits for my company from completing this process.

The YEA programme is an excellent programme to recognise and encourage the young executives in our region who are the future of our industry. I am passionate about the airport world and despite the significant challenges we collectively face, with the creative and dedicated thinkers evidently in our sector I feel confident that we will remain a fantastic dynamic successful industry to work in.

I would strongly recommend the Young Executive Award programme to anyone who wants to make a valuable contribution to our collective future, and commend ACI Asia-Pacific for running such an excellent programme.”

Submission Guidelines

All papers must be written in English and should contain no more than 5,000 words on A4 sized paper within the length of 15 pages, including references and appendices. All papers must be submitted in either Microsoft Word format or as a PDF file.

Submission Deadline

Each participant must send their papers together with the completed YEA 2019 application form and all necessary supporting documents to young_executive@aci-asiapac.aero on or before **5 December 2018 (Wednesday) 12:00 noon Hong Kong Time (GMT+8)**.

Costs

There are no entry fees to enter the program.

Contact Us

For further information, please visit our website at www.aci-asiapac.aero or email to young_executive@aci-asiapac.aero.