



**BRUSSELS**  
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# SINGAPORE AT A GLANCE

*by Brussels Invest Export - Singapore*

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A very warm welcome to our readers. Upon request, our office will be glad to assist any Brussels or Walloon company interested to receive more detailed information on a topic mentioned hereunder. Information is presented in a summarized form and such newsletter will be distributed every month for the edition of the previous month (e.g. January edition will be distributed in February). Anyone who wants to have the full article on any of these topics should send an email to [info@bruwex.sg](mailto:info@bruwex.sg) with the date and heading of the article.

In this March 2017 edition:

## GENERAL

**08/03/2017 – Singapore ranked 5<sup>th</sup> best place for women entrepreneurs** - In Mastercard's inaugural Index of Women Entrepreneurs 2017, Singapore emerged 5<sup>th</sup> among markets with the strongest supporting conditions and opportunities for women to thrive as entrepreneurs. These conditions include strong support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), a high quality of governance, ease of doing business and access to financial services and products. The index surveyed 54 economies across the world, representing 78.6% of the world's female population.

**15/03/2017 – Singapore city infrastructure No. 1: Survey** – Singapore has topped a ranking of more than 200 cities around the world in terms of offering the best infrastructure. This was the first time that city infrastructure has been rated separately in consulting firm Mercer's annual ranking. City infrastructure is

an important factor when multinational corporations decide where to establish operations abroad and where to send expatriate workers. Easy access to transportation, reliable electricity, and drinkable water are all key considerations when determining hardship allowances based on difference between a give worker's home and host locations.

## Best city infrastructure

Rank	
1	<b>Singapore</b>
2	Frankfurt
2	Munich
4	Copenhagen
5	Dusseldorf
6	Hong Kong
6	London
8	Sydney
9	Hamburg
9	Vancouver
9	Zurich

Source: MERCER  
STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS

## Top cities in Asia region

Overall rank	Asia rank	
25	1	<b>Singapore</b>
47	2	Tokyo
50	3	Kobe
51	4	Yokohama
60	5	Osaka
66	6	Nagoya
71	7	Hong Kong
76	8	Seoul
85	9	Taipei
86	10	Kuala Lumpur

Source: MERCER  
STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS

**22/03/2017 – Singapore No. 1 in world for start-up talent**

A US-based organisation, Startup Genome, credits Singapore’s innovative policies for its great start-up ecosystem and put it as the world’s No. 1 for start-up talent, overthrown tech centre Silicon Valley. The average software engineer salary here of US\$35,000 (S\$49,000) per year, for example, is below the US\$49,000 global average. High pay is one reason Sillicon Valley lost its top talent ranking.

**How Singapore stacks up**

	2017 ranking	2016 ranking	Talent	Performance	Funding	Market reach	Start-up experience
Silicon Valley	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
New York City	2	2	7	3	2	3	4
London	3 ▲	6	10	4	4	2	5
Beijing	4	New	8	2	5	19	2
Boston	5 ▼	4	4	6	6	12	3
Tel Aviv	6 ▼	5	11	9	8	4	7
Berlin	7 ▲	9	5	7	9	6	10
Shanghai	8	New	9	8	3	10	13
Los Angeles	9 ▼	3	14	5	7	15	11
Seattle	10 ▼	8	3	12	13	14	6
Paris	11	11	16	14	14	9	8
<b>Singapore</b>	<b>12 ▼</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>
Austin	13	13	6	15	11	18	9
Stockholm	14	New	18	17	20	8	12
Vancouver	15 ▲	18	15	19	19	7	15
Toronto	16 ▲	17	20	18	12	5	18
Sydney	17 ▼	16	12	20	10	13	17
Chicago	18 ▼	7	13	13	15	20	14
Amsterdam	19	19	19	10	17	17	16
Bangalore	20 ▼	15	17	11	18	16	19

Source: STARTUP GENOME STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS

**CURRENT & UPCOMING PROJECT**

**06/03/2017 – Changi’s T5 likely to be served by 2 MRT lines** – Changi Airport’s future Terminal 5 (T5) will very likely be served by two new MRT lines; Thomson-East Coast Line and Cross Island Line. When this happens, it is likely that the existing MRT link between Singapore Expo and Changi Airport will cease to operate. The Thomson-East Coast Line, scheduled to open in stages from 2019 to 2024, is likely to stop at the future T5 before terminating at the existing Changi Airport MRT station. As for the Cross Island Line, targeted to be completed by 2030, the plan is to link the line to Changi East’s new industrial zone before it heads to T5.

**12/03/2017 – Multiple biometric checks at Changi Airport Terminal 4** – Travellers at Changi Airport Terminal 4 (T4) will experience a full suite of biometric technology for fingerprint, iris and facial scanning – as part of plans to beef up border security at checkpoints across the island. T4, which will open towards end of the year, will be Singapore’s first checkpoint with multiple biometric capabilities, though they will not all be immediately activated. Currently, such checks at immigration counters islandwide are focused on fingerprint verification.

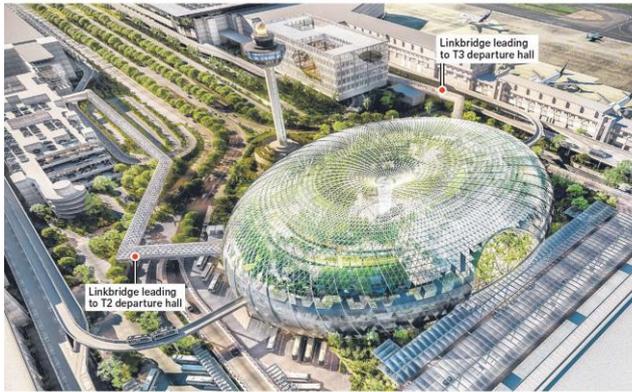
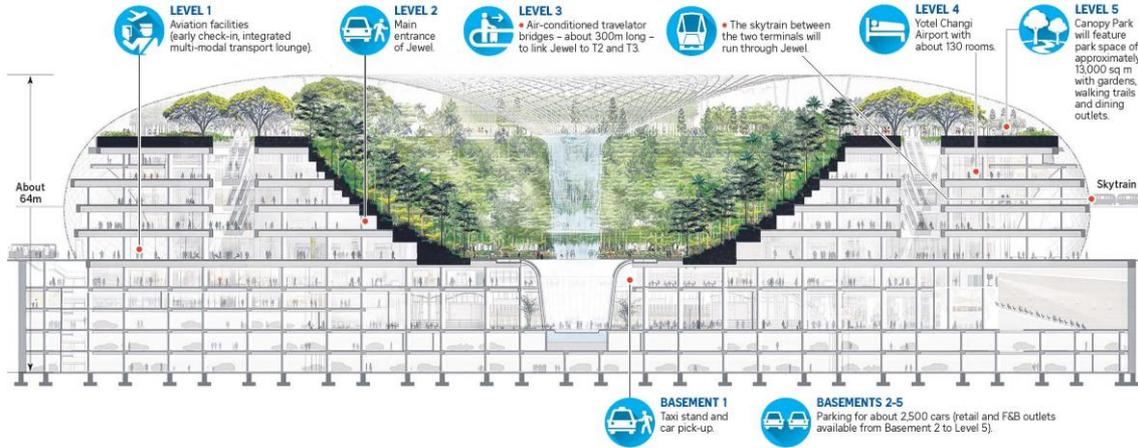
**21/03/2017 – Changi’s Jewel shaping up well for sparkling start in 2019** – The constructions of a future Jewel at Changi has reached the halfway mark, putting the airport on track to build an icon that aims to make Singapore a more attractive air hub and destination. The façade and works inside will be completed by the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of next year, in time for an early 2019 opening. The five-storey, mainly commercial developments with 5 basement floors will house about 300 shops and F&B outlets.

# Peering into Changi's Jewel

Jewel Changi Airport, a five-storey development with five basement floors, is on track to open in early 2019. Being built in front of Terminal 1, it will offer travellers a plethora of shopping and dining options and visual treats, including a 40m indoor waterfall. **Karamjit Kaur** and **Lim Yong** take a closer look.



## CROSS-SECTIONAL VIEW



<b>Project cost</b> \$1.7 billion	<b>Total site</b> 3.5ha	<b>Total gross floor area</b> 134,000 sq m	<b>Facilities for airport operations</b> 18,500 sq m	<b>Indoor gardens and attractions</b> 21,700 sq m	<b>Retail</b> 53,800 sq m (about 300 shops and restaurants)

## UNIQUE FEATURES

- Forest Valley**  
A five-storey garden with about 2,500 trees and 100,000 shrubs from countries like Brazil, Australia, Thailand and America.
- 40m indoor waterfall**  
Transforms into an enchanting light and sound show with special lighting effects in the evenings.

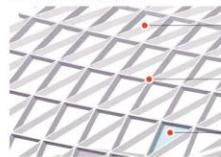
## CONSTRUCTION FACTS

### Jewel's roof facade

A contiguous grid shell that weighs 4,000 tonnes, equivalent to the weight of about six Airbus 380 planes.

The roof spans an area of 23,410 sq m – roughly the floor space of 213 HDB five-room flats. It is 200m at its longest and 150m at its widest, and supported by a ring of 14 12m-tall tree-like columns.

The facade is made up of:



- Close to 18,000 pieces of steel beams.
- Over 6,000 steel nodes – pieces that connect the steel beams and glass panels.
- Over 9,600 pieces of specially manufactured glass.

- The glass, manufactured in the US, can transmit light – for plant growth – while reducing heat gain to ensure sustainable cooling of the interior.
- The entire study, engineering and shortlisting of the glass material alone took nearly two years to complete.

## CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

- May 2013 to Oct 2014** Design development and calling of tender
- Oct 2014** Award of main contractor
- Dec 2014** Groundbreaking and start of construction works
- May 2016** Completion of all structural works from basements 1 to 5
- Fourth quarter 2018** Construction works expected to be completed
- Early 2019** Opening

SOURCE AND ARTISTS' IMPRESSIONS: JEWEL CHANGI AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS

**22/03/2017 – 500-bed rehab hub next to TTSH to open in five years** – Tan Tock Seng Hospital's (TTSH) new 500-bed rehabilitation complex, right next to the main hospital in Novena, opens in 5 years and will add to the growing number of healthcare facilities that cater to the needs of an ageing population. The new Integrated Care Hub will be part of HealthCity Novena – a mega health complex scheduled for completion by 2030 that will include a hospital, medical school and step-down facilities, as well as the National Centre for Infectious Diseases.

## TECHNOLOGY

**13/03/2017 – Singapore not an ideal test-bed for global innovation** – Despite a commonly held view that Singapore could aspire to be a test-bed for global innovation, some veteran entrepreneurs say local companies would do better to focus instead on global markets, or internationalization, from the get-go.

Tan Ming-Liang, CEO of Razer, a San Francisco-based gaming hardware company said the domestic market is fundamentally too small and the rewards from test-bedding here are rarely worth the same effort spent to test-bed outside of Singapore.

Isaac Ho, CEO of venture capital firm Venturecraft, which operates an incubator in Hangzhou, shares the same sentiment. “Even if you successfully test-bed a product here, the small population means you will not be prepared for large volume transactions. This could result in under-building a product”

International Enterprises Singapore (IES) is helping enterprises by looking for tech co-creation opportunities and business ideas from key markets such as the US. Nathalie Choo, group director for North America and Europe at IES said: “The goal is to help them identify innovations, businesses or solutions that can be deployed and scaled up overseas.”

*Thank you for visiting us at the Belgian Pavilion in MedLab Asia 2017*

*Look forward to see you again in our future events!*



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- Company name (including the product/service offered)
- Address
- Website / Facebook-page

Please make sure to include “BE-list” in the subject header and your product will be included soon!

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