

President Marcos officially opens the new terminal of the Clark International Airport

Filinvest Group leads Clark corridor to new heights

Clark Freeport Zone, Philippines – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. officially opened the new Passenger Terminal Building of the Clark International Airport (CRK), unveiling a marker at the airport that signifies a milestone for Philippine air travel.

The new megastructure represents a new era for growth in Central and Northern Luzon, as it doubled the capacity of the old terminal, allowing it to serve 8 million passengers per year.

“This is a perfect example of what the government and private sector can do. This is exactly the kind of partnership that we need to encourage,” President Marcos said.

The management and operations of Clark International Airport were awarded to and are currently being undertaken by the Luzon International Premiere Airport Development (LIPAD) Corp., a private consortium led by Filinvest Development Corporation (FDC).

“The success of CRK is essential to the long-term competitiveness of the Philippines and the development of the New Clark City project, which is the national government’s showcase as the City of the Future. Filinvest is the government's first joint venture partner in what is envisioned to be a model for a green, sustainable and resilient metropolis,” FDC Director Francis C. Gotianun said. “We hope more companies will join us in partnering and recognizing the Philippines and the Clark region as crucial investment destinations.”

Other members of the consortium include JG Summit Holdings Inc., Philippine Airport Ground Support Services Inc., and Changi Airports Philippines (I) Pte. Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Changi Airports International. Each consortium member has vast experience in airport operations, air transportation, and property development. LIPAD Corp. has committed to bringing in this expertise to transform Clark International Airport into a world-class airport.

“We are so grateful that His Excellency is inaugurating this new terminal today and signal to the Philippines and the world that the new CRK is open for business. Our goal is to continue working towards expanding our network above pre-COVID levels, connecting Clark to more domestic and international points. CRK has started to chart new growth rates, with the recent return of international and domestic travel,” LIPAD Chairman Frederick D. Go said.

Also present in the program were Department of Transportation Secretary Jamie Bautista, Department of Tourism Secretary Christina Garcia-Frasco, Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) Chairman Delfin Lorenzana, BDCA President Aileen Zosa, Pampanga Governor Dennis Pineda, Pampanga Vice-Governor Lilia Pineda, Tarlac Governor Susan Yap, LIPAD Chairman Frederick D. Go, LIPAD and Filinvest Development Corporation Director Francis Gotianun and LIPAD Director Jefferson Cheng.

Cooperating to build the dream

Massive benefits are foreseen from the project. It improves the attraction of the airport as the main gateway in Northern Luzon serving Regions I, II, III, and the Cordillera Administrative Region, with the CAMANAVA area. It also helps decongest Ninoy Aquino International Airport by providing a more convenient and accessible alternative while accommodating the growing traffic through North and Central Luzon.

The building of the new terminal entails two components. One involves the construction of the horizontal or airside infrastructure, composed of a new apron and the extension of taxiways, and the other is the construction of the vertical or landside infrastructure covering the new 110,000 square meter passenger terminal, a secondary access road, parking facilities, and a transport terminal hub.

“Today, we have this modern, state-of-the-art terminal that will immensely improve the way Filipinos travel—a terminal where all travelers will feel like they are VIPs. This is not just a distant dream anymore, it is our reality,” BCDA Chairman Delfin Lorenzana said.

BCDA President and CEO Aileen R. Zosa added “We are proud to say that the Clark International Airport is a game-changer, as it will bring immense benefits to the economy. Aside from boosting the tourism industry, this new terminal, which is a joint project of the BCDA and the DOTr, will help further strengthen the Subic-Clark Corridor’s position as a major logistics hub in the country, making this region more attractive to local and foreign investors. The presence of this airport is also expected to create 150,000 new jobs for Filipinos, spanning different sectors and supporting industries, such as the hospitality, food and beverage, agriculture, and manufacturing sectors, just to name a few”.

Valuable cooperation and masterful coordination among parties, government agencies, and LIPAD leaders during the challenging first two years of the pandemic was a fitting testament to the Filipino will to push forward the goal of readying the new terminal that leads not just to more economic growth, but the uplift of the national spirit.

“International gateways such as CRK have an essential role in a country’s economic prosperity and global competitiveness. We at LIPAD are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to our nation’s economic recovery and growth. And as the government fulfills its role to entice investors through economic liberalization measures and a conducive regulatory environment, we in the private sector remain committed as partners in nation-building. After all, nation-building starts with a dream or a promise and is accomplished through partnerships and passion,” Gotianun concluded.

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PHOTOS (1 of 2)



FDC Director Francis Gotianun greets President Marcos Jr. upon arrival at the airport

PHOTOS (2 of 2)



FDC Director Francis Gotianun delivers the event's remarks on behalf of the LIPAD consortium