

## Pillay lauded by aerospace industry

ONE of the giants in the local aerospace industry was honoured at the annual Singapore Aerospace Awards last night.

The Association of Aerospace Industries Singapore (AAIS) presented Mr J.Y. Pillay, founding chairman of Singapore Airlines (SIA), with a citation for his invaluable contributions to the aviation industry here. Currently chairman of the Council of Presidential Advisers, he played a pivotal role in developing SIA into a world-class company. In 1978, his bold and calculated move to purchase 19 Boeing aircraft for US\$900 million (S\$1.1 billion) made headlines worldwide as "the sale of the century".

Said Mr Pillay: "I was a little surprised at being awarded this great honour because I left the industry some 15 years ago and had very little to do with it. So it was a very pleasant surprise."

The AAIS also recognised the achievements of the industry's finest. Singapore Aero Engine Services won the Industry Excellence Award, and Precision Products (S), the Supplier Excellence Award. SIA Engineering took home the Safety Leadership Award, and ST Aerospace Systems, the Workplace Safety And Health Award. Singapore Technologies Aerospace won the Human Capital Leadership and Innovation And Productivity Leadership awards.

**ROYSTON SIM**