

First dedicated facility for business travellers opens

Hall 7 of the Singapore Expo has been converted from an exhibition hall to a business hotel in the space of 14 weeks. The Straits Times takes a look at what travellers can expect when they book a room at Connect@Changi.



JOURNEY OF A TRAVELLER HEADING TO CONNECT@CHANGI



Upon arrival in Singapore

- A traveller will have to take a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test at Changi Airport.
- After passing through immigration, he will be transported directly to Connect@Changi in a dedicated vehicle.



Checking in at Connect@Changi

- The traveller enters through a designated entrance, and has his temperature taken after checking in.
- He will have to wait within the room until Covid-19 test results are out about six hours after the swab is taken.
- If he tests negative, he will be allowed to move around at Connect@Changi. If he tests positive, he will be sent to a medical facility.



During stay

- The traveller will have to take a PCR test on days 3, 7 and 14. He can book appointments using the Connect@Changi app.
- He will not be allowed to leave the facility.



Departure from Singapore

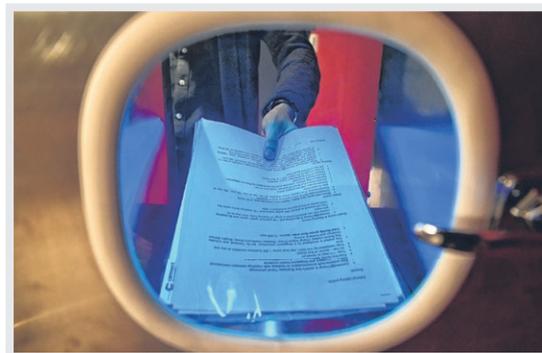
- The traveller will have to take a PCR test before departing from Singapore.

SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES

1 Some meeting rooms are outfitted with air-tight glass panels and a separate air ventilation system.



2 Singapore residents meeting travellers will enter through different entrances, and will have to pass any documents through a document transfer box equipped with ultraviolet lighting for disinfection.



3 Staff will place food deliveries/ amenities on shelves installed outside guest rooms to reduce contact.



4 Pilot waste water testing programme in parallel with the collection of clinical data to detect any Covid-19 virus in a non-invasive way.

5 Cleaners will not enter the guest room for the duration of a traveller's stay; they will clean the room only after he checks out, and do so while wearing full personal protective equipment.

6 Staff (right) will wear at least face shields and face masks.



ABOUT THE FACILITY

The facility will have 150 guest rooms and 40 meeting rooms initially; these will increase to

660 guest rooms and **170** meeting rooms by about May



Guest room rates start from

\$384

based on a minimum stay of 24 hours; hourly rates apply after the first day

Meeting room rates start from

\$20 per hour

for a four-person room, and go up to

\$200 per hour

for a room that can accommodate 22 people

