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**~THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL TO HOLD A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY AND
A RECEPTION TO COMMEMORATE NEW NON-STOP SERVICE
BETWEEN SAPPORO & BANGKOK ~**

On 31st October, 2012, Thai Airways International P.C.L. (TG) held a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate TG's first flight from Sapporo to Bangkok by TG671 at the departure gate. The ceremony was presided over by Mr. Sansern NGAORUNGSI, deputy governor of Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT), TG's executive vice president of Commercial Department, Mr. Pandit CHANAPAI, and director of East Asia, America and Philippines, Mr. Wiwat PIYAWIROJ. From Japan side, vice governor of Hokkaido, Mr. Kenichiro, TADA who was leaving Sapporo by the first flight leading his "Thailand Economics Mission", and the mayor of Chitose, and key persons or top managements from government and companies joined the ceremony.

At the ceremony, Mr. Pandit expressed his pleasure to open the long awaited new route and deep appreciation to all concerned in his address. After having a complimentary address from Mr. Tada, vice governor of Hokkaido, on behalf of the passengers, Mr. Tada received a fresh flower bouquet from Mr. Pandit as a memento. The flight TG671 bound for Bangkok left Shin-chitose Airport (CTS) on schedule with 245 passengers in Airbus A330-300.

Thai traditional dance was also performed at the departure gate of TG671, which was provided by TAT. All passengers of the flight enjoyed the attraction for a moment.



Photo 1 : the scene of ribbon cutting ceremony



Photo 2: flower gift presentation from
Mr Pandit (left) to Mr. Tada (right)

The following day, TG held a reception commemorating the launch of the new service between Sapporo and Bangkok at JR Tower Hotel Nikko Sapporo. More than 180 people from travel industry, cargo agent, government institutions, and media were invited to the reception. After an opening address by Mr. Phandit, Ms. Harumi

TAKAHASHI, governor of Hokkaido delivered a complimentary address for TG. The barrel opening conducted by TG's managements and VIPs, and Thai traditional dance and Muay Thai performance boosted the party's mood.



Photo 1 : Mr. Phandit to make an opening address



photo 2: Ms. Takahashi, governor of Hokkaido to deliver a complimentary address



Photo 3 : scene of barrel opening