SASCO's stand

This is a special feature from *PAX International*'s [October 2020 digital edition](#).

SASCO has refreshed the menu for Bamboo Airways featuring local food

In just about any other country, the introduction of an entirely new catering facility at the start of a memorable 2020 would have signaled hardship from the beginning.

The Southern Airports Services Joint Stock Company ([SASCO](#)), however, is better able to weather the pandemic due to the efforts of its home country's government, a resilient economy and a bustling tourism market. With the spread of the virus handled on a national basis, the country is reaching out to the world.

"All efforts were taken very seriously by the general public and [followed] rules set by the authorities without a hitch," says Keerthi "Happy" Hapugasdeniya, General Manager, Inflight Services at SASCO's catering facility at [Tan Son Nhat International Airport](#) in Ho Chi Minh City . "The nation got together and [adapted] very quickly to the new way of living."

Keerthi "Happy" Hapugasdeniya, General Manager Inflight Services, SASCO

With domestic air traffic in the country now open, there is increased demand from SASCO's launch customer [Bamboo Airways](#), which operates a full service fleet of Embraer E195s for in-country service. These aircraft mainly bring local business travelers to Can Tho International Airport in Mekong Delta, where an average of 5 million to 6 million travelers pass through in a given year, Hapugasdeniya tells *PAX International*.

The SASCO unit at Tan Son Nhat has the capability to serve more than 10,000 meals per day. Hapugasdeniya says that Bamboo operates a two Class service with meals changed monthly.

International air travel is reopening slowly, with flights to Japan and South Korea resumed at the end of September. Passengers returning to Vietnam still require a 14-day quarantine. In addition to flag carrier [Vietnam Airlines](#), the country has [Vietjet](#) and Bamboo Airways operating in a nation of 100 million people.