



## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release  
15 December 2021

# Milano Malpensa Airport obtains the highest climate accolade in global CO<sub>2</sub> standard for airports

**15 December 2021** – Milano Malpensa Airport has achieved Level 4+ 'Transition' of *Airport Carbon Accreditation*, following in the footsteps of its sister airport Milano Linate, which received this recognition earlier this year. The successful accreditation of both airports, brought about by operator SEA Group, is a continuation of the group's long standing engagement in climate action. Both airports were part of the trailblazing group that joined the *Airport Carbon Accreditation* programme in its first year of existence. Illustrative of their leadership role in climate action, SEA Milano airports' entry to the programme was at Level 3 'Optimisation'.

Attaining Level 4+ represents a step change in the carbon management of an airport. It requires setup of a long-term goal and strategy oriented towards absolute emissions reductions, including an emissions trajectory and interim milestones. Milano Malpensa Airport's actions to realise tangible reductions of their own CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are now aligned with the Paris Agreement. SEA Group has also included broader emissions in their carbon footprint that include all the significant operational sources on- and off-site. The airport has also demonstrated evidence of actively engaging and leading their operational stakeholders towards delivering emissions reductions. Looking to the future, SEA Group is actively supporting aviation's decarbonisation through investment in a portfolio of projects developing Sustainable Aviation Fuel, producing green hydrogen and setting up infrastructure for electric aircraft.

A snapshot of initiatives implemented by the airport to progress towards these ambitious goals includes:

- Electrification of the ground vehicle fleet
- Contracting electricity from renewable energy sources
- Continuous improvement of infrastructure management to reduce energy consumption
- Reduction of emissions related to heating thanks to deployment of new heat pump systems (as part of the revamp of Terminal 2) and use of biogas

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- Supporting the modal shift from private vehicles to public transport through improvement of accessibility for passengers and operators
- Implementation of the EU Horizon 2020 Green Airport project "OLGA" for the first hydrogen production site inside an airport
- Introduction of the supply of Sustainable Aviation Fuels in collaboration with business partners and airlines

**Armando Brunini, CEO SEA Group** said: *"After the important "4+ Transition" recognition obtained by Milano Linate airport, one of the few European airports to be awarded, we are proud that few months later, Milano Malpensa airport has also achieved this significant goal. SEA, which manages both Milano airports, is committed to achieving Net Zero CO<sub>2</sub> in 2030 and now more than ever we are focusing our efforts on contributing to decarbonisation. A path of attention to environmental sustainability, started a decade ago, has led us to undertake new initiatives and to invest today in innovative projects all with a focus on environmental protection: from electricity to hydrogen, to new solutions for the conservation of biodiversity in the areas surrounding the Malpensa airport."*

**Olivier Jankovec, Director General ACI EUROPE** said: *"I am delighted at the news of Milano Malpensa's excellent achievement of Level 4+ 'Transition' within Airport Carbon Accreditation. Once again SEA Group has shown its commitment to mitigating climate change by embracing the new ambitious level of the programme. Today's news builds on years of hard work and perseverance in achieving a lowering of emissions since the very first year of Airport Carbon Accreditation's operation. Hats off to the team that made it possible, especially given the current circumstances. Let us not forget that decarbonisation requires significant investment on the part of an airport, therefore continued climate action in the face of the COVID-19 crisis should be met with all the more praise!"*

### LATEST PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENTS

Despite the continued difficulties faced by the global airport industry in light of the pandemic, its commitment to decarbonisation remains resolute. This is illustrated by the growing *Airport Carbon Accreditation* participation across the world, most recently recording 373 accredited airports. The latest

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airports to join the programme are:

- Europe: Limoges-Bellegarde Airport (Level 1); Aalborg Airport (Level 2); 10 DHMI airports: Adiyaman Airport, Balıkesir Kocaseyit Airport, Bursa Yenişehir Airport, Çanakkale Airport, Erzincan Yıldırım Akbulut Airport, Kapadokya Airport, Kahramanmaraş Airport, Sinop Airport, Sivas Nuri Demirağ Airport, Şırnak Şerafettin Elçi Airport (Level 1); Cluj Avram Iancu Airport (Level 1);
- Asia-Pacific: Hamilton Airport (Level 1)
- Latin America & the Caribbean: Montego Bay Sangster Airport (Level 1); Rio de Janeiro/Galeão International Airport (Level 1)

Progress has also been achieved through airports moving to higher levels of accreditation. In Asia-Pacific, Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport has upgraded to Level 3 'Optimisation' and Palmerston North Airport in New Zealand reached Level 2 'Reduction'. In Europe, Bologna Airport earned Level 3 accreditation.

**ENDS.**

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### NOTES FOR EDITORS:

*Airport Carbon Accreditation* is the only institutionally-endorsed, global carbon management certification programme for airports. It independently assesses and recognises the efforts of airports to manage and reduce their carbon emissions through 6 levels of certification: 'Mapping', 'Reduction', 'Optimisation', 'Neutrality', 'Transformation' and 'Transition'.

Through its 6 levels of certification, *Airport Carbon Accreditation* acknowledges that airports are at different stages in their journey towards comprehensive carbon management. It is a programme for airports of all sizes, extending beyond hubs and regional airports with scheduled passenger traffic, to include general aviation and freight-focused airports.

Visit [www.airportcarbonaccreditation.org](http://www.airportcarbonaccreditation.org)

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