

**ACI EUROPE**

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## European airports actively engaging on reducing CO<sub>2</sub>, despite the crisis

For immediate release

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**Manchester, 16 June 2009** – This time last year, European airports adopted a landmark environmental resolution, committing to reduce their carbon emissions, with the ultimate goal of becoming carbon neutral. This resolution also committed airport trade body ACI EUROPE to develop, within a year, a European-wide accreditation programme allowing airports to make their commitment a reality.

Today's launch of **Airport Carbon Accreditation** at the 19<sup>th</sup> ACI EUROPE Annual Congress taking place in Manchester sees ACI EUROPE deliver on that promise, at a critical time.

**Airport Carbon Accreditation** will assess and recognise airports' efforts to manage and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within their direct control. It will also take into account their collaborative efforts with airlines, air traffic controllers, ground handlers and others on the airport site. The launch of the programme - which is voluntary - sees a total of 31 European airports applying to become *Airport Carbon Accredited*. More applicants are expected in the months ahead.

Comprised of 4 levels of accreditation – Mapping, Reduction, Optimisation and Neutrality, *Airport Carbon Accreditation* will be administered by leading consultancy WSP Environmental\* and overseen by an independent Advisory Board made up of representatives of the European Commission, ECAC (European Civil Aviation Conference) and EUROCONTROL.

**Dr Yiannis Paraschis, President, ACI EUROPE and CEO of Athens International Airport** said *"In launching Airport Carbon Accreditation today, we are turning our commitment to reduce carbon emissions into concrete action. Airport Carbon Accreditation is a genuinely demanding, scientifically robust and institutionally-endorsed programme. The fact that we are doing this in the midst of the worst ever trading conditions speaks volumes about how serious we are about taking on the challenge of climate change."*

**Olivier Jankovec, Director General, ACI EUROPE** commented *"Until now, there hasn't been a common framework for mapping and reducing carbon emissions on the airport site – which is a uniquely complicated space. The 31 airports signing up today to Airport Carbon Accreditation account for 26% of passenger traffic in Europe – no small beginning."*

He added *"For ACI EUROPE, today is the culmination of two years of hard work. This is about collectively engaging the European airport community to play its part in addressing the impact of aviation on climate change, alongside the persistent efforts of airlines and other industry partners."*

**The full list of airports participating in Airport Carbon Accreditation is as follows:**

**Aéroports de Paris** (Paris-Charles de Gaulle, Paris-Orly) in France.

**Amsterdam Airport Schiphol** in the Netherlands.

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**Athens International Airport** in Greece.

**Avinor** (Oslo, Trondheim/Værnes and Ålesund/Vigra airports) in Norway.

**Dublin Airport Authority** (Dublin, Cork and Shannon airports) in Ireland.

**Dubrovnik Airport** in Croatia.

**Fraport** (Frankfurt Airport) in Germany.

**LFV** (Göteborg, Landvetter, Kiruna, Luleå, Malmö, Ronneby, Stockholm-Arlanda, Stockholm-Bromma, Umeå, Visby and Åre Östersund airports) in Sweden.

**Manchester Airport Group** (Manchester, East Midlands, Bournemouth and Humberside airports) in the UK.

**SEA Milan Airports** (Milan Malpensa and Milan Linate airports) in Italy.

**TAV** (Istanbul Atatürk International, Ankara Esenboğa International and İzmir Adnan Menderes International airports) in Turkey.

## **ENDS**

### **Notes for editors:**

The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has estimated that aviation's total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions account for 2% of global emissions' impact on climate change. Of that figure, airports' own operations only account for up to 5%, but European airports are keen to tackle their greenhouse gas emissions – several individual airports operators having already committed to becoming carbon neutral in the past few years with some having already achieved this.

\*WSP Environmental is one of the world's largest environmental consultancy firms employing over 1,000 staff globally to provide innovative solutions to environment-related business issues. WSP Environmental leads the field in carbon and climate change advice.

For further information about **Airport Carbon Accreditation**, please go to **[www.airportcarbonaccreditation.org](http://www.airportcarbonaccreditation.org)**

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*ACI EUROPE is the European region of Airports Council International (ACI), the only worldwide professional association of airport operators. ACI EUROPE represents some 440 airports in 45 European countries. Member airports handle 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe, welcoming over a billion passengers each year.*