

ACI EUROPE

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CO2 reduction & efficiency drive go hand in hand for Europe's airports

For immediate release

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Madrid, 21 June 2012: Three years on from the launch of *Airport Carbon Accreditation*, European airport trade body ACI EUROPE took a moment at its 22nd Annual Congress in Madrid to give an update on the programme. Today's announcement - coinciding with the Rio G20 Summit and EU Sustainable Energy Week - provided the latest results achieved by Carbon Accredited airports in this past year.

The institutionally endorsed¹ programme independently assesses² and recognises airports' efforts to manage and reduce their CO₂ emissions. It certifies airports at 4 different levels of accreditation (*Mapping, Reduction, Optimisation and Neutrality*). In the past twelve months, *Airport Carbon Accredited* status has been awarded to a total of **59 airports** in 18 countries, including many of the busiest and most iconic airports in Europe. Airports which have recently become *Airport Carbon Accredited* for the first time include **Madrid-Barajas, Barcelona El Prat, Lanzarote** and **Liege Airport** in Belgium. Recently upgrades within the programme include **Helsinki Airport** and **Eindhoven Airport**.

Some 10 European airports have been accredited as carbon neutral, including 6 airports in Sweden, 2 airports in Norway and 2 airports in Italy. This level recognises that the airports have achieved a significant reduction in their carbon emissions, actively engaging other stakeholders to lower their respective emissions and finally, offsetting any of the remaining CO₂ emissions that are under the airports' direct control.

Declan Collier, President of ACI EUROPE and CEO of London City Airport said "*Year Three of Airport Carbon Accreditation has really seen things move up a gear. In Europe, we now have 59 airports accredited, including several entire airport groups, as well as 5 airports that have moved up a level in their accreditation. More than half of Europe's air passengers now travel to airports accredited by the programme. Couple this achievement with expansion to Asia-Pacific and success in gaining the support of ICAO and it's clear that this programme has established itself as THE carbon management certification standard.*"

He added "*Accredited airports welcome over 780 million passengers each year and **Year 3 has yielded a reduction of 414,128 t CO2**. This reduction is achieved through a vast array of different measures, concerning energy use and logistics at the airport. In squeezed economic times like these, the efficiency gains benefit everyone and that motivation has clearly boosted the programme as well. Airports of all sizes and geographical locations are working smarter, strategising for increased efficiency and a genuinely reduced carbon footprint.*"

ENDS

Notes for editors:

¹The programme is endorsed by ECAC and EUROCONTROL and is overseen by an independent Advisory Board including representatives of the European Commission, ECAC (European Civil Aviation Conference), EUROCONTROL and UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme) and ICAO.

²**WSP Environment & Energy** is the administrator of *Airport Carbon Accreditation*. It is one of the world's largest environmental consultancy firms employing over 1,000 staff globally to provide innovative solutions to environment-

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related business issues. WSP Environment & Energy leads the field in carbon and climate change advice.

More information is available: <http://www.wspenvironmental.com/>

For further information about **Airport Carbon Accreditation**, including an up to the minute list of accredited airports, please visit www.airportcarbonaccreditation.org

Specific details relating to Year 3 are available in the **Annual Report 2011-2012**: <http://www.aci-europe.org/component/downloads/downloads/3266.html>

For further information about aviation and the environment please go to: www.enviro.aero

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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 over 400 airports in 46 European countries. Member airports handle 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe, welcoming more than 1.5 billion passengers each year.