

## 130 airports actively addressing their CO2 emissions

**Geneva:** On the occasion of the Global Sustainable Aviation Summit organised by ATAG\* and currently taking place in Geneva, the independent programme *Airport Carbon Accreditation* announced the latest progress in the airport industry's efforts to reduce and ultimately neutralise its carbon emissions.

Following the industry's commitment to reduce its carbon emissions made 7 years ago\*\*, the intervening years since then have seen a critical mass of airports taking action to lower their impact on climate change through their participation in *Airport Carbon Accreditation* – the **global carbon management standard for the airport business**.

The programme certifies airports at **4 different levels of accreditation** covering all stages of carbon management (*Mapping, Reduction, Optimisation and Neutrality*). It is independently administered, institutionally-endorsed<sup>1</sup> and has already won praise from the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), the United Nation Environment Panel (UNEP) and the European Union (EU), the US FAA (Federal Aviation Authority) and many others.

As announced yesterday, **130 airports** across the 5 continents are currently certified under *Airport Carbon Accreditation*. These airports welcome over **29% of global air passenger traffic**.

Speaking ahead of the COP21 climate negotiations - which are due to start in November in Paris - **EU Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete**, praised the airport industry's engagement in curbing carbon emissions: *"It is reassuring to see an industry as visible and strategically relevant as the airport industry proactively addressing its carbon emissions. By allowing airports to work their way through 4 levels of certification, Airport Carbon Accreditation bridges their individual efforts and their collective achievement as an industry. With airports playing host to so many other companies, the past 6 years have shown that the programme is also having a halo effect on them, as airlines, air traffic controllers, retailers, passengers and surface transport also get involved to lower their CO2 emissions on the airport site. I congratulate ACI on the momentum they have achieved with this - bringing an industry-led climate change initiative which began here in Europe all the way to becoming the global standard."*



These are the latest developments over the past 3 months, in some of the key world regions:

### **BIG NEWS IN NORTH AMERICA**

In North America, just one year on from the programme launch there, there are now **8 airports** certified. The 2 most recent certifications are **Denver International Airport** and **Dallas Fort Worth (DFW)**, both very prominent US airports, with cumulative traffic of over 100 million passengers a year. DFW is the very first US airport to achieve certification at Level 3 Optimisation, having successfully reduced its own CO2 emissions and engaged its local partners on the airport site to do the same.

### **GROWING MOMENTUM IN LATIN AMERICA**

In Latin America, just 9 months on from the programme launch there, there are now **4 airports** certified. The 3 most recent certifications are **Quito International Airport**, **Tijuana International Airport** and **Galapagos Ecological Airport**. In parallel, the first airport to become certified, **Puerto Vallarta International Airport** has succeeded in moving up to Level 2 Reduction.

### **MORE AIRPORTS PROGRESSING IN EUROPE & ASIA-PACIFIC**

Meanwhile in Europe, in the past 3 months, **Bergamo Orio al Serio** and **Ljubljana Airport**, have moved up a level of certification, to Level 2 Reduction, having proven they have achieved carbon reduction.

In parallel, **Sydney Airport** and **4 airports** in the **AOT (Airports of Thailand) group** in Thailand have also succeeded in progressing to 'Level 2 Reduction'. These developments are in addition to renewal certifications of airports in Belgium, Croatia, France, Sweden, Italy and Turkey. Europe now counts **92** certified airports, while Asia-Pacific has **25** certified.

### **COMING SOON**

In addition, airports which have firmly committed to apply in the coming months for certification at one of the 4 levels of the programme include **Honolulu airport** and **San Francisco International Airport** in North America as well as **Libreville Airport** and **Abidjan Airport** in Africa.



To find out more about the programme and how airports are lowering their carbon emissions, the full results for Year 6 of the programme (June 2014 to June 2015) are available as an e-publication and also an interactive microsite [www.airportCO2.org](http://www.airportCO2.org).

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### NOTES FOR EDITORS:

\*ATAG is the Air Transport Action Group ATAG is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and is the only global association that represents all the industries in the air transport sector. Its mission is to promote aviation's sustainable growth for the benefit of global society. ATAG's members include airports, airlines, airframe and engine manufacturers, air navigation service providers, tourism and trade partners, ground transportation and communications providers.

Airport Carbon Accreditation and many airports in the programme are also featured in a new ATAG publication *Aviation Climate Solutions*: [http://aviationbenefits.org/media/125796/Aviation-Climate-Solutions\\_WEB.pdf](http://aviationbenefits.org/media/125796/Aviation-Climate-Solutions_WEB.pdf)

\*\*In 2007, the global airport industry committed to reduce its carbon emissions, in a special resolution passed at the [ACI WORLD Annual Congress & Assembly](#).

° Originally developed and launched by [ACI Europe](#) in June 2009, *Airport Carbon Accreditation* was extended to airports in Asia-Pacific, in November 2011 (in partnership with [ACI Asia-Pacific](#)) and to African airports in June 2013, (in partnership with [ACI Africa](#)) and North American airports in September 2014 (in partnership with [ACI-NA](#)).

<sup>1</sup>The programme is administered by leading consultancy WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff and overseen by an independent Advisory Board including representatives from ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation), UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme), the European Commission, the US Federal Aviation Authority, ECAC (European Civil Aviation Conference), EUROCONTROL, the Aviation Environment Federation and Manchester Metropolitan University.

<sup>2</sup>WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff is the administrator of *Airport Carbon Accreditation*. It is one of the world's leading professional services firms, working with governments, businesses, architects and planners and providing integrated solutions across many disciplines. The firm provides services to transform the built environment and restore the natural environment, and its expertise ranges from environmental remediation to urban planning, from engineering iconic buildings to designing sustainable transport networks, and from developing the energy sources of the future to enabling new ways of extracting essential resources. It has approximately 17,500 employees, mainly engineers, technicians, scientists, architects, planners, surveyors as well as various environmental experts and design professionals, based in more than 300 offices, across 30 countries, on 5 continents. [www.wspgroup.com](http://www.wspgroup.com)

To find out which airports are certified & their level of certification, visit:

<http://www.airportcarbonaccreditation.org/airport/participants.html>

