

Two more airports in Europe become carbon neutral

- **Gatwick Airport and Lyon-Saint Exupéry become the latest carbon neutral airports in Europe**
- **There are now 27 carbon neutral airports in Europe, 4 in Asia and 1 in North America**
- **The 27 carbon neutral airports in Europe welcome 18.9% of European air passenger traffic**

Brussels: As many events take place this week as part of **EU Green Week**, the European airport industry provides an update on its commitment to have 50 carbon neutral airports in Europe by 2030. Today we announce the latest airports to achieve that goal: **Gatwick Airport** in the UK and **Lyon-Saint Exupéry** in France which have both reached carbon neutral status (Level 3+), certified by the independent carbon management programme *Airport Carbon Accreditation*¹.

Niclas Svenningsen, who heads the *Climate Neutral Now* initiative at the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** Secretariat in Bonn, Germany commented «*This is certainly a significant moment for Gatwick, as the first carbon neutral London airport and also for Lyon-Saint Exupéry, as the second French airport to become carbon neutral – and we congratulate them on all of the work that they have undertaken to get here. We are also encouraged to see that the European airport industry is already past the half-way mark in its commitment to having 50 carbon neutral airports by 2030 – this is promising progress and we hope that other industries are taking note.* »

This brings the total number of **carbon neutral airports** in Europe to **27** – a movement that began when Swedavia's Stockholm-Arlanda airport achieved certification as the first carbon neutral airport in the world in November 2009. Across the 4 available levels of the *Airport Carbon Accreditation* programme, there are currently a total of **116 airports in Europe**, working to address their CO₂ emissions. These airports welcome **64.9%** of European passenger traffic.

LYON

Late last week, **Aéroports de Lyon - the operator of Lyon-Saint Exupéry airport** - announced that it has reached carbon neutral status (Level 3+) within *Airport Carbon Accreditation*, having initially entered the programme at the 'Mapping' level (Level 1) in 2013



and worked its way up through the levels in the intervening years, culminating its efforts with a variety of activities ranging from direct reduction of its CO₂, switching to cleaner sources of energy, engaging 20 companies on its airport site to lower their CO₂ and investing in carbon offsets for the remaining CO₂ emissions under the airport operator's control*.

Olivier Jankovec, Director General, ACI EUROPE commented *“Lyon Saint-Exupéry plays an invaluable role in its region and the whole of France. Its latest achievement of becoming carbon neutral speaks volumes about its commitment to sustainability and it is something that all of the team there can be justifiably proud of.”*

LONDON

Today, **Gatwick Airport** announces it too has reached carbon neutral status. With the diverse activities the airport operator has undertaken, it has actively reduced its annual carbon emissions from fuel and energy, ultimately achieving a 2.6% drop in annual energy consumption per passenger. The airport has also engaged others on the site to lower their CO₂, it uses 100% renewable energy (since 2013) and has invested in carbon offsets**.

Reacting to today's announcement from London, **Jankovec** commented *«London is Europe's most popular destination by air and it is great to see Gatwick moving up to Level 3+ of the Airport Carbon Accreditation programme – and becoming the second busiest carbon neutral airport in Europe. I congratulate Stewart Wingate and all the hardworking team at Gatwick on this significant moment in the 'Decade of Change' strategy and the extraordinary range of initiatives and activities they have undertaken to address the CO₂ emissions at the airport.»*

Stewart Wingate, CEO of London Gatwick said *“We consider sustainability as critical to our future as a successful airport and the news that we are now a carbon neutral airport shows just how far we have come since independent ownership in 2009. Our Decade of Change strategy is really driving our sustainability performance and today's results show that we are successfully balancing growth with a reduced environmental footprint, while also contributing to the community and thriving local and national economies.»*



The CO₂ reduction achieved by European airports during Year 8 (June 2016 to May 2017), will be announced during the **27th ACI EUROPE Annual Assembly, Congress & Exhibition in Paris** next month. Visit the dedicated results microsite for currently available info: www.airportCO2.org

ENDS

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

*Find out more in Aéroports de Lyon's infographic here:

http://www.lyonaeropresse.fr/wp-content/uploads/infographie_v3.jpg

**Find out from Gatwick Airport's own press release here:

http://mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/press-releases/2017/17_05_31_carbon_neutral_and_decade_of_change.aspx

The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has estimated that aviation's total CO₂ emissions account for 2% of global emissions' impact on climate change. Of that figure, airports' own operations only account for up to 5%, but 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.

The *Airport Carbon Accreditation* programme - launched by the airport association ACI EUROPE in 2009 - certifies airports at **4 different levels of accreditation** covering all stages of carbon management (*1. Mapping, 2. Reduction, 3. Optimisation and 3+. Neutrality*). It is independently administered, institutionally-endorsed¹ and has the support of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), the European Commission (EC) and others.

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](#)).

¹The programme is administered by leading consultancy *WSP* and overseen by an independent Advisory Board including representatives from the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change), ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation), UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme), the European Commission, ECAC (European Civil Aviation Conference), EUROCONTROL and Manchester Metropolitan University. As the programme administrator, *WSP* assesses and approves the airports under the programme, provides administrative and secretariat services and advises applicant airports through the accreditation process. *WSP* is one of the world's leading professional services firms. Amongst others it provides services to transform the built environment and restore the natural one and expertise ranging from environmental / climate remediation to urban and transport planning, to designing and implementing sustainable transport networks and strategies, to airport sustainability carbon management and energy planning and management. www.wsp.com



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

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

For more information, contact : Robert O'Meara, Director, Media & Communications, ACI EUROPE

email : robert.omeara@aci-europe.org tel : +32 486 54 14 71

T +44 845 868 2708
@AirportCO2

@ aca@wspgroup.org
www.airportcarbonaccreditation.org



Established in 2009
by ACI EUROPE

