



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release
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Global airport industry climate action surpasses 200 airports milestone

- **201 airports across the world now certified at one of the 4 levels of *Airport Carbon Accreditation***
- **These airports welcomed over 2.8 billion passengers a year – that's 39.6% of global air passengers**
- **Latest global CO₂ reduction by airport industry announced: -202,184 tonnes of CO₂**
- **35 airports are carbon neutral**

Mauritius, 19 October 2017: At this year's ACI World & Africa Annual General Assembly (WAGA) hosted by Airports of Mauritius Co, the global airport industry issued an update on the progress it has been making in addressing its CO₂ emissions, through the independent and voluntary global certification programme, *Airport Carbon Accreditation*.

As is customary at this time of year, Airports Council International also released the annual report for *Airport Carbon Accreditation* (covering the period May 2016 to May 2017), showing how the global airport industry^o is delivering on its commitment to lower its own CO₂ emissions, made in 2007*.

Angela Gittens, Director General, ACI World commented *"This past year has seen continued engagement from airports - with 36 new applications to Airport Carbon Accreditation and more airports reaching a higher level of certification within the programme. As a result, we are able to announce that we now have **201 airports** participating in Airport Carbon Accreditation. These airports welcome over **39.6% of global air passenger traffic**. To put that into context, that means more than **2.8 billion passengers** now travel through airports certified at one of the 4 levels of the programme."*

Earlier this week, **Townsville Airport** in Queensland, Australia became the 200th airport to enter the programme, certified *at Level 2 Reduction*.

She added *"From May 2016 to May 2017, accredited airports succeeded in collectively reducing the CO₂ emissions under their direct control by **202,184 tonnes of CO₂** - that's equivalent to the CO₂ emitted during the lifecycle of over 2.1 million iPhones."*



Niclas Svenningsen, who heads the *Climate Neutral Now* initiative at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat in Bonn, Germany commented *“People are aware of the public conversation about Climate Change between governments and the work underway to forge and implement policies that support a sustainable future, but effective climate action also relies enormously on an innovative and proactive private sector – and Airport Carbon Accreditation is a really good example of that. By providing a clear, yet ambitious framework that accommodates the multi-speed nature of airports’ efforts across the world, this is actively encouraging and stimulating a collective effort by the Global airport industry – one that is also engaging other aviation stakeholders to get involved as well. Something other industries and sectors would do well to try to foster.”*

More African Airports on Board

Participation growth in the African continent has been particularly remarkable – going from 3 airports in the programme a year ago, to now 10 accredited airports. These airports welcome **28% of African air passenger traffic**. An **additional 6 US airports** also became certified for the first time, and US airports were also major contributors to the overall reduction of CO2 emissions achieved last year – with **Dallas Fort Worth** becoming the **first airport in the Americas reaching carbon neutral status**. These achievements reflect the continued commitment of US airports to addressing climate change, despite the withdrawal of the US from the Paris Agreement.

A number of airports received their certificates at a dedicated *Airport Carbon Accreditation* ceremony during this year’s WAGA in Mauritius:

- ACSA (Airports Company of South Africa) received 4 certificates – each at *Level 1 Mapping* for **Cape Town International** (Cape Town), **King Shaka International** (Durban), **O.R. Tambo International** (Johannesburg) and **Port Elizabeth International** (Port Elizabeth) airports.
- ONDA (Moroccan Airports Authority) collected two *Level 1 Mapping* certificates for 2 of its airports: **Casablanca Mohammed V International** and **Marrakech Menara Airport**.



- From Latin America there were also a Level 1 Mapping certificates presented to **Guayaquil International Airport** and **Carrasco International Airport, Montevideo**
- the final airport to be certified at *Level 1 Mapping* was **Sir Seewosagur Ramgoolan International Airport in Mauritius – the host of this year’s WAGA.**
- Meanwhile, at *Level 2 Reduction*, there were 2 certifications: **Libreville Leon Mba International Airport** and **Quito International Airport.**
- **Aeria’s Felix Houphouet Boigny Airport** – the airport of Abidjan – also received its *Level 3+ Neutrality* certificate, distinguishing itself as the very first African airport to achieve carbon neutral status.

With **4 different levels of accreditation** covering all stages of carbon management (*Mapping, Reduction, Optimisation and Neutrality*), *Airport Carbon Accreditation* is independently administered, institutionally-endorsed¹ and has the support of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), US Federal Aviation Administration and the European Commission (EC).

For all the latest key figures, including details of the accredited airports in each world region, their actions and the difference the programme is making, check out the interactive maps, case studies & programme results on www.AirportCO2.org. You can also download the ***Airport Carbon Accreditation Annual Report 2016-2017*** [here](#).

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NOTES FOR EDITORS:

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.

°Find out more about CORSIA by visiting:



http://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/A39_CORSA_FAQ2.aspx

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 Nation Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), the European Union (EU) and others.

**Airports are at different points on this journey to become cleaner and more efficient. As the centrepieces of a complex web of aircraft movements, technical operations and surface access transport, airports can address their CO₂ emissions in a variety of ways. These can include better insulation and energy efficiency, switching to green energy sources, investing in hybrid, electric or gas-powered service vehicles, encouraging employees, passengers & visitors to use public transport, working with airlines & air traffic management to reduce runway taxiing times and implement green landing processes and much more.

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](#)), North American airports in September 2014 (in partnership with [ACI-NA](#)) and airports in Latin America & Caribbean in December 2014 (in partnership with [ACI-LAC](#)).

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.

WSP is the independent Administrator of *Airport Carbon Accreditation*. As such, it accredits 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 engineering professional services firms. WSP are technical experts and strategic advisors, and provide services to transform the built environment and restore the natural one, in areas including environmental and climate remediation, urban and transport planning, sustainable transport networks and strategies, airport sustainability, carbon management and energy planning and management.

<http://www.wsp.com/>

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

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

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