

ACI EUROPE

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European airports making strides in reducing their CO₂

For immediate release

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Brussels, 23 November 2011: ACI EUROPE today released an update on its flagship climate change initiative, **Airport Carbon Accreditation**.

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').

Several prominent European airports have just achieved certification within the programme for the first very time, including **Geneva Airport** and **Rome-Leonardo da Vinci Airport** (both at the 'Optimisation' level of certification) and **Nice Côte d'Azur Airport** (at the 'Mapping' level).

Recent renewals within the programme include **Stockholm-Arlanda** and **Bromma** airports in Sweden at the 'Neutrality' level, alongside Avinor's **Trondheim Airport** and Italy's **Milan-Linate** and **Milan-Malpensa**.

The busiest airport in the world in terms of international passenger traffic, BAA's **London-Heathrow** has just achieved the 'Optimisation' level of certification for the second year running.

Other well-known airports which have successfully renewed at the 'Reduction' level include **Athens International Airport**, **Brussels Airport**, **Farnborough Airport**, **Kristiansand Airport**, **Paris-Charles de Gaulle** and **Paris-Orly**. Finally, **Ankara-Esenboga Airport**, **Bologna Airport**, **Istanbul-Ataturk** and **Shannon Airport** have retained their status at the 'Mapping' level.

Olivier Jankovec, Director General ACI EUROPE commented "*Accredited airports now number 46 and span 17 countries. Those airports also account for 49% of European passenger traffic. Their focus on lowering their carbon footprint is making serious headway, as the number of airports certified at each of the various levels of the programme attests. While other industries are still only coming up with ideas and commitments, airports are charging ahead, making a tangible difference.*"

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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 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.

¹The programme 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).

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-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

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.