

Airport industry's carbon reduction programme commended by OECD's International Transport Forum

For immediate release

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Liepzig, Germany: The airport industry's efforts to address its carbon emissions were highly commended at the annual global International Transport Forum (ITF) Awards announced at this week's ITF 2014 Annual Summit.

The voluntary climate change initiative **Airport Carbon Accreditation** was named as one of two runner-ups for the **ITF's Transport Achievement Award**.

Announcing the results, **José Viegas Secretary General of the International Transport Forum*** said *"The jury commends Airport Carbon Accreditation as a robust programme that clearly demonstrates widespread and progressive promotion of good practice, and we want to acknowledge the success of the initiative in empowering airports across the globe to reduce their carbon emissions."*

Olivier Jankovec, Director General ACI EUROPE, Patti Chau, Regional Director, ACI ASIA-PACIFIC and Ali Tounsi, Director General, ACI AFRICA commented *"We are delighted that Airport Carbon Accreditation has been so highly commended by the ITF. We launched this programme nearly 5 years ago during the worst trading conditions, but our faith was quickly rewarded by solid uptake from airports all around Europe and beyond. This is a fantastic recognition for the 98 airports that are currently certified under the programme - for their on-going work to map, reduce, optimise and ultimately neutralise their carbon emissions."*

They added *"As the face of aviation on the ground, airports are fully committed to addressing their carbon footprints – this is also part of being a good neighbour serving the economic & social needs of their communities. Airport Carbon Accreditation frames, supports and incentivises the collective work that airports are doing to make their operations more carbon efficient and their business more sustainable."*

Airport Carbon Accreditation is institutionally-endorsed¹ and has already won praise from ICAO, UNEP, the EU's Transport Commissioner Siim Kallas and EU Climate Action Commissioner Connie Hedegaard°. Independently administered by leading global sustainability consultancy WSP, it has established itself as the airport industry's global standard for carbon management.

In Europe, 82 airports in 24 countries are currently certified at one of the 4 available levels of certification ('Mapping', 'Reduction', 'Optimisation' and 'Neutrality'), including 14 that are carbon neutral. Combined with the certification of 15 airports in the Asia-Pacific region of ACI and 1 airport in ACI Africa's region, the programme now comprises **98 certified airports**, including some of the best-known and renowned airport brands in the world.

In year 4 of the programme (June 2012 to May 2013), the collective reduction achieved was over 170,000 tonnes of CO₂, enough energy to power 71,000 households for a year.

The final results of the CO₂ reduction achieved during **Year 5** (June 2013 to May 2014) will be announced on 17 June at the 23rd ACI EUROPE Annual Assembly, Congress & Exhibition, which will be hosted by FRAPORT (Frankfurt Airport) - the very first airport to become certified by the programme.

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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 airport operators having already committed to becoming carbon neutral in the past few years with some having already achieved this.

*The International Transport Forum at the OECD is an intergovernmental organisation with [54 member countries](#). It acts as a strategic think tank for transport policy. Its Annual Summit is the unique platform for a global conversation on strategies for transport in the 21st century. At the Summit, ministers from 54 member countries and beyond engage in focused debates with decision-makers from business, civil society leaders and top academics. This year's event is focused on the theme "Transport for a Changing World".

¹The programme is endorsed by ECAC (European Civil Aviation Conference) and EUROCONTROL (European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation) and is overseen by an independent Advisory Board including representatives of the European Commission, ECAC, EUROCONTROL, ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation), UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme) and Manchester Metropolitan University.

^o*Airport Carbon Accreditation* was also named as one of the Top 3 low carbon programmes for Europe in last year's **World You Like Contest** - an EU-wide contest to find the best projects and programmes which help society reduce its carbon footprint.

For more information on the programme, including details of the requirements of each of the 4 levels of certification & a full list of accredited airports: www.airportcarbonaccredited.org

Follow the programme on Twitter: [@AirportCO2](https://twitter.com/AirportCO2)

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