



ALIGHT welcomes aircraft manufacturer Airbus as new partner

The European aircraft manufacturer Airbus has become a new dedicated partner in the ALIGHT project. Airbus has a unique expertise and will have a significant impact on the work in ALIGHT towards sustainable aviation.

It is one of the world's top aircraft manufacturers who joins the ALIGHT partnership. Airbus has a vast experience within the field of smart usage of sustainable aviation fuels to reduce both CO₂ and non-CO₂ emissions.

In close collaboration with other key partners in ALIGHT, Airbus will perform crucial cost benefit analyses on future SAF scenarios and help determine both feasibility and viability of each of the identified scenarios for sustainable aviation.

"Being able to attract a partner like Airbus is a testament to the robustness of the ALIGHT partnership. Airbus is one of the largest aircraft manufacturers globally and their unique expertise will add incredible value to our efforts in promoting sustainable aviation and airport operation in Europe," says Sabrina Tekle Krarup Jensen, Senior Project Manager for Sustainability at Copenhagen Airport.

Since 2020, the European Commission funded partnership has worked to promote sustainable solutions and technologies for the aviation sector. By adding Airbus to the partnership consortium, ALIGHT can co-develop and test potential models in an aircraft context and with a profound expertise on future aircraft and engine technologies.

"The distribution of sustainable aviation fuel at airports is a challenge for the entire industry. This is why Airbus has joined the ALIGHT project: to contribute to the modeling of an infrastructure for sustainable aviation fuel and renewable energy sources for ground activities in airport operations. In addition, we will collectively develop the aviation ecosystem necessary to bring this model to life," says Julien Manhes, Airbus Head of Sustainable Aviation Fuel and Fuel Efficiency.



With this new addition to the consortium, the ALIGHT partnership now consists of 17 dedicated partners in 10 different European countries. The ALIGHT partnership model is based on co-creation and knowledge exchange for maximized impact and will strive to develop replicable and scalable models for sustainable aviation and airport operation for a better tomorrow.



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FACT BOX

Airbus' action plan on sustainable aviation fuels

SAF has been identified as one of the key elements in helping achieve emissions reduction goals. Since 2008, Airbus has acted as an important catalyst in the certification process, demonstration flights, partnerships, and policy advocacy of sustainable aviation fuel. In 2016, Airbus became the first aircraft manufacturer to offer customers SAF at delivery flights. Today, aircraft and helicopters leave Airbus delivery centres with SAF onboard from Toulouse and Marignane in France, Hamburg and Donauworth in Germany, Mobile in the USA, and most recently Tianjin, China.

Airbus operations and logistics are also carried out with SAF including the fleet of Airbus Belugas from 2019. Airbus' commercial aircraft, helicopters and military aircraft can fly with an up to 50% blend of SAF mixed with kerosene and will be capable of operating with 100% SAF by 2030. This capability will play an important role in the sector's decarbonization journey.

FACT BOX

The ALIGHT project will bring forward the necessary solutions, knowledge, guidelines, and best practice handbooks supporting an efficient airport paradigm shift towards zero emission aviation and airport operation. The ALIGHT projects focus on two main topics:

- Sustainability Aviation Fuel including fuel supply chain, usage of sustainable aviation fuel, economics, and sustainability.
- Smart Energy Systems and under this smart energy supply, integration, management, and use



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