

Enabling a green aviation transition

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Enabling a green aviation transition: How green is an aircraft?

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Supporting innovation

- Existing ICAO certification requirements assess the environmental performance of the aircraft **design and technology** (e.g. Annex 16 Volume III aeroplane CO₂ emissions standard).
- Innovative sources of energy for the aviation sector is a key issue to reduce emissions (e.g. drop-in sustainable aviation fuels, hydrogen, electricity).
- Regulatory framework needs to anticipate and adapt in order to incentivise the uptake of innovative technologies by quantifying and crediting the environmental benefits.
- > Various initiatives on **electrification of aviation** in Europe.



Electric / hybrid aircraft initiatives

- EASA certified the Pipistrel Virus Electro in June 2020
 the first fully electric general aviation aircraft.
- Similar on-going work also taking place on eVTOL urban taxis and UAS drones.
- > Norway's regional air transport system vision:
 - By 2030, 1st scheduled domestic flight with electrified aircraft.
 - By 2040, all civil domestic aviation operated with electrified aircraft, reducing emissions by at least 80% compared with 2020.
 - CAA Norway EASA Innovation Partnership to work towards this vision with industry partners.







Environmental benefits of electrification

- Pipistrel Virus Electro certified against existing ICAO Annex 16 Vol. I noise certification requirements.
 - Significant reduction in noise certified levels due to absence of engine source noise.
 - > No emissions certification requirements.



- Issues with measuring emissions performance
 - \succ CO₂ emissions dependent on electricity energy mix (e.g. 58 to 773 gCO₂/kWh).
 - Use of renewable energy to generate electricity (29% share in EU) shifts CO₂ emissions impact from aircraft operation to production / maintenance / end of life recycling.
 - Life cycle assessment methodology (various international standards).
 - Would existing ICAO aeroplane CO₂ standard credit the emissions reductions from novel electrification technology?



Summary

- Regulatory framework needs to anticipate and adapt to novel green technology in order to incentivise uptake by aviation sector.
- Cooperation between all stakeholders is essential to realise emission reductions.
- Novel technology/design/energy sources offer emissions and noise benefits. Quantifying and crediting these benefits is critical to support innovation.
- EASA European Aviation Environmental Report aims to support that by providing an objective view on the environmental performance of the European aviation sector.



Thank You

