Crediting Low-Carbon Aviation Fuels in CORSIA

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Reduced emissions has both commercial and environmental benefits...

Reduced cost



- Less fuel needs to be purchased
- Less exposure to volatile markets





 Lower fuel weight → greater ability to carry passengers or cargo

Additional range



 Ability to serve more markets directly



...so we have been working on it since we started flying

Aircraft and engine manufacturers



- 80% reduction in fuel use vs. first – generation jets
- Lighter materials
- ETOPS: higher reliability for more direct routings on transoceanic flights

Maintenance providers and suppliers



- Aftermarket winglets provide up to 6% fuel reduction
- Engine washing to remove unwanted materials

Airports and ATC providers



- Ensure optimal routings and altitudes
- Reduce time in holding patterns
- Power aircraft using electricity while at the gate

Regional partners



- Flying the right size aircraft for each route
- Nonstop service to smaller cities saves fuel and time



Airlines using half the industry's fuel are taking tangible steps to develop biofuels, for a variety of reasons

Strategic



Ensure stable fuel supply

AIR CANADA 任

Alitalia

Reduce advantage of traditional fuel suppliers

Financial



Potential to be market-competitive or even below traditional fuel pricing

FedEx

FINNAIR

Garuda Indonesia

germanwings

GOL

海南航空



- Increasing regulatory focus on climate change
- **Provides protection** against future CO₂ costs

porter

QANTAS

QATAR **A**

Scandinavian Airlines

INGAPORE AIRLINE

IBERIA 🚄

JAPAN AIRLINES

iet**Blue**

LAN 🚿

😪 Lufthansa



Reputational advantage from reduced CO₂ footprint





BRITISH AIRWAYS

American Airlines



brussels airlines

CATHAY PACIFIC

CHINA EASTERN

المسابات Emirates 🕼

ETIHAD

Eurowings



Biofuels must be a drop-in solution to be cost-effective







Dollar coin Re-introduced in 1971, 1979, 2000, 2007 Dvorak keyboard Patented in 1936

Double-decker bus Less traffic congestion than articulated buses

New technology is great as long as it fits the existing infrastructure



To be affordable and scalable, biofuels must go into hydrant systems—all airlines will use, but not all will pay





United is deeply involved in regulatory and development work to encourage biofuel adoption



- ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) is the UN agency responsible for aviation standards
- ICAO's CAEP (Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection) is responsible for policies regarding emissions
- United is part of CAEP's Global Market-Based Measure Task Force, which is developing:
 - Reporting standards for an airline's emissions
 - Reporting standards to receive regulatory credit for biofuel use
 - Methods to verify a biofuel's sustainability

California Environmental Protection Agency

- CARB's LCFS (Low Carbon Fuel Standard) is a per-gallon credit for producers of lowcarbon fuels
- Aviation fuel is currently excluded from generating credits
- United and other stakeholders are working with CARB to provide the technical analyses to include aviation fuel in LCFS



EU ETS (European Union Emissions Trading Scheme) offered a cumbersome biofuel credit

- Aviation was added to EU ETS effective 2012 for all flights to/from/within (but not overflying) EU
- After ICAO agreed to develop a global system, EU agreed to limit EU ETS to intra-EU flights
- Airlines had to monitor CO₂ emissions from every single flight
- Biofuel was credited as zero emissions, but had to be accounted for individual flights—this doesn't enable drop-in fuels

Chicago-London flights spend one hour in EU airspace, but are regulated for emissions over non-EU countries





ICAO's CORSIA (Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation) will credit biofuels

Goals

- Achieve carbon-neutral growth for international airline industry after 2020
- Avoid conflicting patchwork of state measures regulating CO₂ emissions

Method

- Agreement covers 2021-2035
- Countries "opt in" to start—current signatories over 86% of international aviation emissions
- Developed countries cover 50% of developing countries' growth, phased out over time
- Biofuel accounting
 - Biofuels receive lifeycle credit for CO₂ reductions
 - Biofuel accounting practices still being written
 - Biofuel use receives full credit instead of sharing CO₂ benefit

Chicago-London flights pass over four countries, but will only be regulated once





While emissions growth is a shared obligation, biofuel credit goes solely to the purchasing airline

- To ensure international agreement, CORSIA was built with a shared obligation across developed and developing countries
- However, biofuel credit goes solely to the purchasing airline otherwise the financial incentives would be too weak
- I.e., biofuel can be used instead of offsets to meet CORSIA obligations

Emissions obligation Shared biofuel credit

$$Oblig_{i} = (Ind_{i} - Ind_{2020}) \times \frac{Airline_{i} - Biofuel_{i}}{Ind_{i}}$$

$$Oblig = (110 - 100) \times \frac{10 - 0.5}{110}$$
$$Oblig = 0.86$$

Emissions obligation Individual biofuel credit

$$Oblig_{i} = (Ind_{i} - Ind_{2020}) \times \frac{Airline_{i}}{Ind_{i}} - Biofuel_{i}$$
$$Oblig = (110 - 100) \times \frac{10}{110} - 0.5$$

. . . .

$$Oblig = 0.41$$

Note: figures are for demonstration purposes only; formula becomes more complicated starting in 2030



CORSIA will help drive biofuel adoption but not be a major driver—at least in the near term

Relationship of CO₂ costs to fuel price

metric tons CO_2 = *gallons fuel* × *Fuel Density* × *Combustion Factor*

 $metric \ tons \ CO_{2} = gallons \ fuel \times \frac{6.7 \ pounds}{gallon} \times \frac{3.157 \ CO_{2}}{fuel} \times \frac{metric \ ton}{2,205 \ pounds}$ $1 \ metric \ ton \ CO_{2} = 104 \ gallons \ fuel$ $\Delta \frac{\$1.00}{metric \ ton \ CO_{2}} \approx \Delta \frac{\$0.01}{gallon \ fuel}$ Current biofuel price supports per gallon



¹ Assumes 10/metric ton CO₂, biofuel with 80% lifecycle CO₂ reduction

² Biofuel with 80% lifecycle CO₂ reduction, assuming aviation inclusion in LCFS

³ D3 RIN for cellulosic biodiesel

Most long-term biofuel commitments—even from foreign carriers—are for California delivery

Airline	Provider	Location	Quantity	Starts
UNITED	AltAir Fuels	Los Angeles	15M gals	Mar 2016- Mar 2019
KLM Royal Dutch Airlines	AltAir Fuels	Los Angeles		Sep 2016- Sep 2019
😪 Lufthansa	🛠 gevo	Chicago	40M gal	Nov 2017- Nov 2022
Fedex	RED ROCK BIOFUELS	Oakland	3M gal/yr	7-year agreement
Southwest'	RED ROCK	Bay Area	3M gal/yr	
Alaska. Airlines	HAWAFI BIOEnergy	Hawaii		Fall 2018
Alaska. Airlines	n and a server a serv			
jet Blue	🧳 SG Preston	New York	9.9M gal/yr	2019-29
CATHAY PACIFIC	Fulcrum	San Francisco	375M gal	2019-29
QANTAS	🧳 SG Preston	Los Angeles	4M gal/yr	2020-30
	Fulcrum	United hubs	90M gal/yr	10-year agreement
BRITISH AIRWAYS		U.K.		2021



- CO₂ accounting for biofuels must align with industry practices
- CORSIA credit for biofuels will be a small but growing part of demand
- Incentives matter—the right policies will spur biofuel development





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