airport carbon accreditation

MAPPING | REDUCTION | OPTIMISATION | NEUTRALITY

why join?

There is now a growing expectation that aviation – including airports – make a significant and leading response to the climate change challenge. As part of that response, the airport community has made clear its commitment to carbon reduction through its Airport Carbon Accreditation programme. This programme is the only institutionally endorsed carbon management certification standard for airports world-wide. As it enters its sixth year, Airport Carbon Accreditation is now established as the accepted industry reference standard for airport carbon mapping and management.

Climate change: time for collective engagement

The catalyst for the programme's development lay in the aviation aero-political environment in Europe which led ACI EUROPE to take a strategic view of its environmental strategy and programmes and to identify key emerging issues. This review made clear that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from aviation were already considered a very significant contributor to climate change and were attracting considerable regulatory attention. As a result, ACI EUROPE took a close look at their member airports' operational activities and development in terms of carbon management and determined that there was a need to assist their member airports to assess and reduce their carbon footprint.

ACI EUROPE worked with its members, key institutional aviation bodies, the environmental community and others to develop and launch *Airport Carbon Accreditation*. Four years on from its launch in July 2009, the programme now encompasses some 87 European airports.

"The programme now encompasses some 87 European airports"

Climate change issues have become increasingly important to business communities in the Asia Pacific region - including to its airports. A growing number of Asia-Pacific airports are initiating carbon and energy management programmes, and against this background the *Airport Carbon Accreditation* programme was extended to the Asia-Pacific region in November 2011 in collaboration with ACI Asia-Pacific. Eight airports in the Asia-Pacific region have already been accredited and other airports have committed to join. In the coming years, it is intended that the programme will be progressively rolled out to other ACI regions.

A*irport Carbon Accreditation* enables airports to implement best practice carbon management processes and gain public recognition of their achievements through the attainment of accreditation at different levels of participation. It is a voluntary programme administered independently by WSP Environment and Energy.

"21 airports in the Asia-Pacific region have already been accredited and other airports have committed to join"

The entry point to the programme recognises that an airport is quantifying and verifying its carbon footprint, and that senior management has made a high level policy commitment to the reduction of carbon emissions. The highest level of participation is designed for airports that have achieved carbon neutrality by reducing emissions as a priority and have offset residual emissions.

By joining *Airport Carbon Accreditation*, you will:

- Detail your commitment to GHG reduction and management

- Raise your airport's public profile and credibility

- Reduce your airport's exposure to climate change regulatory risk

- Take another step in securing your license to grow

- Deliver significant financial benefits to your airport

- Be part of the collective airport industry's response to climate change

- Help improve the public reputation of the airport industry

Financial Benefits

The majority of carbon emissions at an airport come from energy use: fuel burnt in boilers, generators and vehicles and power imported from external sources. Carbon emissions reductions are most commonly delivered through energy reduction and with that comes energy cost reductions. Easily accessible savings can amount to 10% of total energy costs and experience shows that this is a regularly realised figure.

Many European and Asia-Pacific airports are already making strides in lowering their total energy costs and improving operational efficiency. *Airport Carbon Accreditation* offers a further opportunity to optimise those operational cost savings and promote your airport's efforts and commitment, as part of a wider campaign, at local, regional, national and global level.

How to Become *Airport Carbon Accredited*

If you wish to become *Airport Carbon Accredited* you should:

1. Contact the *Airport Carbon Accreditation* Administrator to obtain up-to-date programme documentation.
2. Review the documentation.
3. Decide on the level of participation based on the level of carbon management activity at the airport
4. Collate data and prepare documentary evidence to support application; identify an independent third party organisation to verify data and supporting documentary evidence.
5. Contact *Airport Carbon Accreditation* administration to make arrangements for payment of the participation fee.
6. Submit application to *Airport Carbon Accreditation* administration for processing; pay participation fee.

Once all documentation has been submitted and the participation fee received, your application will be processed according to the programme's standard operating procedures and you will be notified of additional requirements, if any, within one calendar week. Once the programme administration is satisfied that the requirements for the level of application have been met, you will receive your certificate and other publicity materials, and your airport's name will be added to the public listings of accredited airports.

During this process we recommend that airports maintain a continued dialogue with the *Airport Carbon Accreditation* administration to ensure that the information is prepared correctly and in line with the programme requirements.

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