

MEDIA RELEASE

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ASPIRE Annual Report: 'Green' flight tests results released

The Asia and South Pacific Initiative to Reduce Emissions (ASPIRE) partnership group have released their inaugural Annual Report - proving the aviation industry is serious about reducing its impact on the environment and improving on current best practice.

Airways New Zealand, Airservices Australia and the Federal Aviation Administration of the United States are the founding members of the initiative created in February 2008 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from aviation activities in the region through technological innovation and best practice air traffic management.

Since then, the group has undertaken a series of three Trans-Pacific test flights in partnership with Qantas, Air New Zealand and United Airlines, to demonstrate and measure the emission reductions and fuel savings achievable through the use of existing efficiency procedures.

"ASPIRE demonstrates that when several efficient air traffic procedures are integrated and applied to a single flight, we see the potential for reductions in delays, fuel usage and emissions. These procedures will become a new standard for air traffic services in the NextGen system," said Hank Krakowski, Chief Operation Officer, Federal Aviation Administration.

The first ASPIRE Annual Report highlights each of the 'green' flights whose results will now be used in establishing a baseline for air traffic management performance and carbon emissions. The report also demonstrates the very real benefits of increasing global collaboration between air navigation service providers (ANSPs) and outlines a forward work plan.

"Through collaboration, the FAA, Airservices Australia and Airways NZ have become world-leaders in developing initiatives which help airlines in their quest to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. ASPIRE is a tangible example of the willingness of airlines, industry and governments to work together to reduce aviation emissions on a global scale," said Ashley Smout, CEO, Airways New Zealand.

Following on from the huge success of the 'green' flights, ASPIRE recently won the prestigious Jane's ATC Global Award, in recognition of its ground-breaking potential to reduce the environmental impact of aviation, beating out a highly competitive international field in the process.



Within the industry, ASPIRE's reputation continues to grow with several more ANSPs and airlines expressing interest in the program. Japan's Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB) will be the first new member to join the group in October this year with the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) expected to follow in February 2010.

The ASPIRE group has pledged to continue to expand its program of work to support future gains for the environment including adding additional city pairs to other parts of Asia and the South Pacific through regional working groups.

"ASPIRE is our commitment to ensuring the very best environmental stewardship along these Asian and South Pacific routes. We believe aggressive action to 'make real' new concepts of operation and take advantage of innovations in aircraft and air traffic management technology are absolutely crucial," said Greg Russel, CEO, Airservices Australia.

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Airservices Australia is a Government owned organisation responsible for the safe and efficient management of air traffic across 11 per cent of the world's air space. Services include air traffic control, airspace management, aeronautical information, radar communications, radio navigation aids, aviation maintenance and engineering, environmental management and aviation rescue and firefighting.

ASPIRE flight results

In 2008 ASPIRE conducted three test flights to demonstrate and measure gate-to-gate emissions and fuel savings. Each flight was managed by an ASPIRE founding member air navigation service provider (ANSP) and involved close collaboration with our airline partners. The flights used the latest in air traffic management and aircraft technology and procedures to reduce fuel burn and impact on the environment.

These three flights resulted in a total fuel saving of 17,200 kilograms and emissions reduction of 54,200 kilograms. The results for each demonstration flight are outlined below:

12 September 2008

Air New Zealand - Flight 8

Depart: Auckland

Arrive: San Francisco

Managing ANSP: Airways New Zealand

Fuel Savings: 3,500 kg

Emissions Savings: 11,200 kg

22 October 2008

Qantas – Flight 94

Depart: Melbourne

Arrive: Los Angeles

Managing ANSP: Airservices Australia

Fuel Savings: 8,900 kg

Emissions Savings: 28,000 kg

14 November 2008

United Airline – Flight 870

Depart: Sydney

Arrive: San Francisco

Managing ANSP: Federal Aviation Administration

Fuel Savings: 4,800 kg

Emissions Savings: 15,000 kg

Total Savings

Fuel: 17,200 kg

Emissions: 54,200kg



Federal Aviation
Administration

AIRWAYS
NEW ZEALAND