

Azores Airlines, Galp, Neste and Carlyle Aviation take off for first flight with sustainable aviation fuel

October 24th, the day that will go down in Azores Airlines' history as the beginning of a new era. The company made its first flight using sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

This milestone is even more significant considering that a few days ago, the SATA group airlines joined the European Union's Zero Emissions Aviation Alliance, an initiative aimed precisely at decarbonizing the sector by 2050.

Azores Airlines' first commercial flight fueled with SAF connected Lisbon and Ponta Delgada, a 1,500 km flight, in an Airbus A320 named UNIQUE with CS-TKK registration. The aircraft took off from Lisbon airport at 19h25 local time and landed at Ponta Delgada, São Miguel Island, at 21h30 local time.

The fuel used on this route was a blend with 39% SAF (HEFA), which resulted in a 35% reduction in total CO₂e emissions.

The preparation and monitoring of this first sustainable commercial flight involved the energy partners GALP and Neste, two leading innovators in biofuels, and Carlyle Aviation Partners, a company specializing in aircraft management and lessor of the CS-TKK UNIQUE aircraft operated by Azores Airlines. Together with the technical teams of Azores Airlines, the partners ensured the feasibility of this operation.

SAF has the advantage of offering similar performance to traditional jet fuel and can be used in the same engines as fossil fuel. It has a significantly lower carbon footprint, with greenhouse gas emission reductions of up to 80%¹ over the life cycle of the fuel, compared to using fossil jet fuel.

Neste's SAF is produced from 100% sustainably sourced renewable waste and residue raw materials, such as used cooking oil and animal fat waste. Neste will have an annual SAF production capacity of 1.5 million tons per annum by the end of 2023, ready to support SATA and other airlines. Placing itself as a strategic SAF supplier, Galp plans to produce 240.000 tonnes/ year of SAF as part of the transformation of Sines into a Green Energy Park.

About Galp

A Galp is an international player in the energy and mobility sectors, focused on developing sustainable solutions to improve people's lives. Galp has set ambitious decarbonization goals and is committed to reduce the CO₂ intensity of its operations by 40% by the end of this decade, and to being carbon neutral by 2050. Thus, Galp is actively reshaping its energy portfolio and intends to lead the industry by allocating half of its capital investment to new energy solutions. To achieve such ambitious goals, the only way to truly transform the business and lead the energy transition is to open the door to new technologies. As such, Galp partners with startups from all over the world, top universities, and R&D labs such as Net4Co₂,

¹ Calculated with established life cycle assessment (LCA) methodologies, such as CORSIA methodology.

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HyLab, Water CoRe, and BIORef to innovate and re-invent the energy sector, always focusing on creating win-win scenarios for both parties. By the end of 2025, Galp's open innovation platform (Galp Upcoming Energies) aims to invest about €180 million in innovation projects. Galp is already expanding its renewable portfolio, being one of the main solar players in Iberia, and is currently developing a Green Hydrogen production hub in Sines. In addition, it is also betting on strategic partnerships such as the Joint Venture Aurora with Northvolt for lithium refining. For more information, visit www.galp.com

About Grupo Sata

Azores Airlines is the youngest airline in the SATA Group. It belongs to the group of SATA companies that stem from the founding, in 1941, of the "Sociedade de Estudos Aéreos Açorianos". The SATA group is rooted in the Azores and is committed to combating the archipelago's isolation. It comprises two air carriers (SATA Air Açores and Azores Airlines) and an entity that manages the aerodromes of the Azores, SATA Gestão de Aeródromos. SATA Air Açores Airlines currently operates a network of scheduled routes (regional, domestic and international), including scheduled flights to destinations in North America (Boston, Toronto, New York, Oakland, Montreal, Toronto) and mainland Europe (Paris, Frankfurt and Barcelona), in addition to connections within the domestic network (Lisbon and Porto). SATA Air Açores operates the nine islands of the archipelago and links the Azores and Madeira archipelagos. To learn about other ongoing projects in the field of environmental sustainability: Sustentabilidade | Azores Airlines

About Neste

Neste (NESTE, Nasdaq Helsinki) creates solutions for combating climate change and accelerating a shift to a circular economy. We refine waste, residues and innovative raw materials into renewable fuels and sustainable feedstock for plastics and other materials. We are the world's leading producer of sustainable aviation fuel and renewable diesel and developing chemical recycling to combat the plastic waste challenge. We aim at helping customers to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions with our renewable and circular solutions by at least 20 million tons annually by 2030. Our ambition is to make the Porvoo oil refinery in Finland the most sustainable refinery in Europe by 2030. We are introducing renewable and recycled raw materials such as liquefied waste plastic as refinery raw materials. We have committed to reaching carbon-neutral production by 2035, and we will reduce the carbon emission intensity of sold products by 50% by 2040. We also have set high standards for biodiversity, human rights and supply chain. We have consistently been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices and the Global 100 list of the world's most sustainable companies. In 2021, Neste's revenue stood at EUR 15.1 billion. Read more: neste.com

About Carlyle Aviation Partners

Carlyle Aviation Partners is a business area of Carlyle's Global Credit platform that manages investments and provides specialist services to the aviation sector. It is an investment manager with broad technical expertise and deep industry knowledge. It has a team of over 105 employees and offices located in the US, Ireland and Singapore. For more information, visit <http://www.carlyle.aero/>

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