SUCCESSFUL ATR TEST FLIGHTS WITH 100% SAF IN ONE ENGINE

News / Manufacturer

ATR has successfully performed a series of ground and flight tests on its ATR 72-600 prototype aircraft, cumulating seven flight hours with 100 % Sustainable Aviation Fuel in one engine. The aircraft was powered by Neste MY Sustainable Aviation Fuel produced from 100% renewable waste and residues raw materials, such as used cooking oil.

These tests are part of the 100% SAF certification process of ATR aircraft. In September 2021, ATR announced a collaboration with Braathens Regional Airlines and Neste to accelerate this certification. The three companies are working closely together, targeting a demonstration flight in 2022 on a Braathens Regional Airlines' ATR aircraft. The aim is to complete the certification process of ATR aircraft for 100% SAF by 2025.

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Sustainable Aviation Fuels are a key pillar of the aviation industry's decarbonisation strategy, with an immediate impact in reducing CO2 emissions. It is expected that an ATR flying on a typical regional route with 100% SAF in both engines would reduce CO2 emissions by 82%.

Stefano Bortoli, ATR's Chief Executive Officer said: "As the regional market leader, our aim is to lead the change to decarbonisation. Already emitting 40% less CO2 than similarly-sized regional jets, ATR turboprops are the ideal platform to offer significant advances in the reduction of CO2 emissions. The achievement of this great milestone shows that we are fully committed to making the use of 100% SAF possible and helping our customers meeting their objectives to provide even more sustainable air links – not in 2035 or 2050 but in the coming years."

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