



# **Aviation and Environment – Global Strategies for Future Air Transport**

Hamburg Aerospace Lecture – 11 May 2017  
Thomas Rötger, IATA

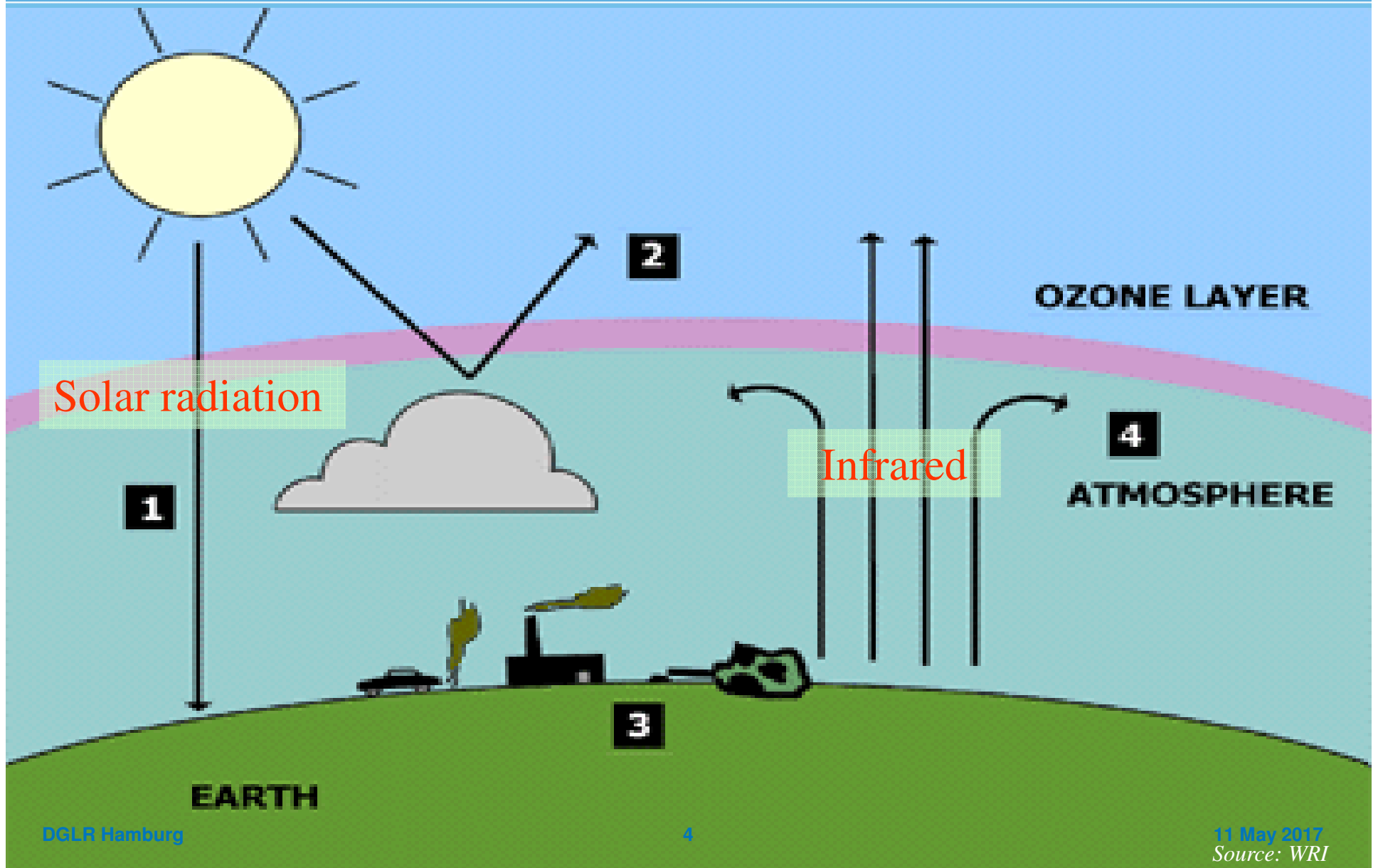
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7396634>

# Overview

- Aviation and climate change
- Fuel-efficient aircraft technologies
- Sustainable aviation fuels
- Global market-based measure
- Local air quality
- Noise
- Aircraft decommissioning and recycling



# Aviation and climate change



# Aviation climate impact

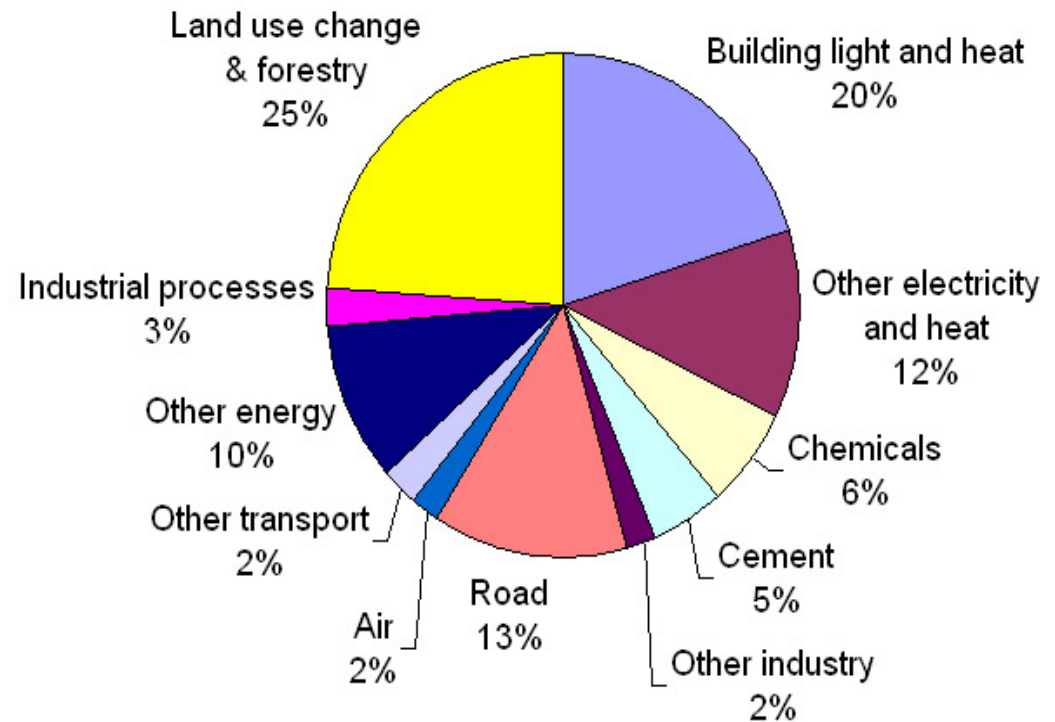


**How much of man-made CO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
comes from aviation?**

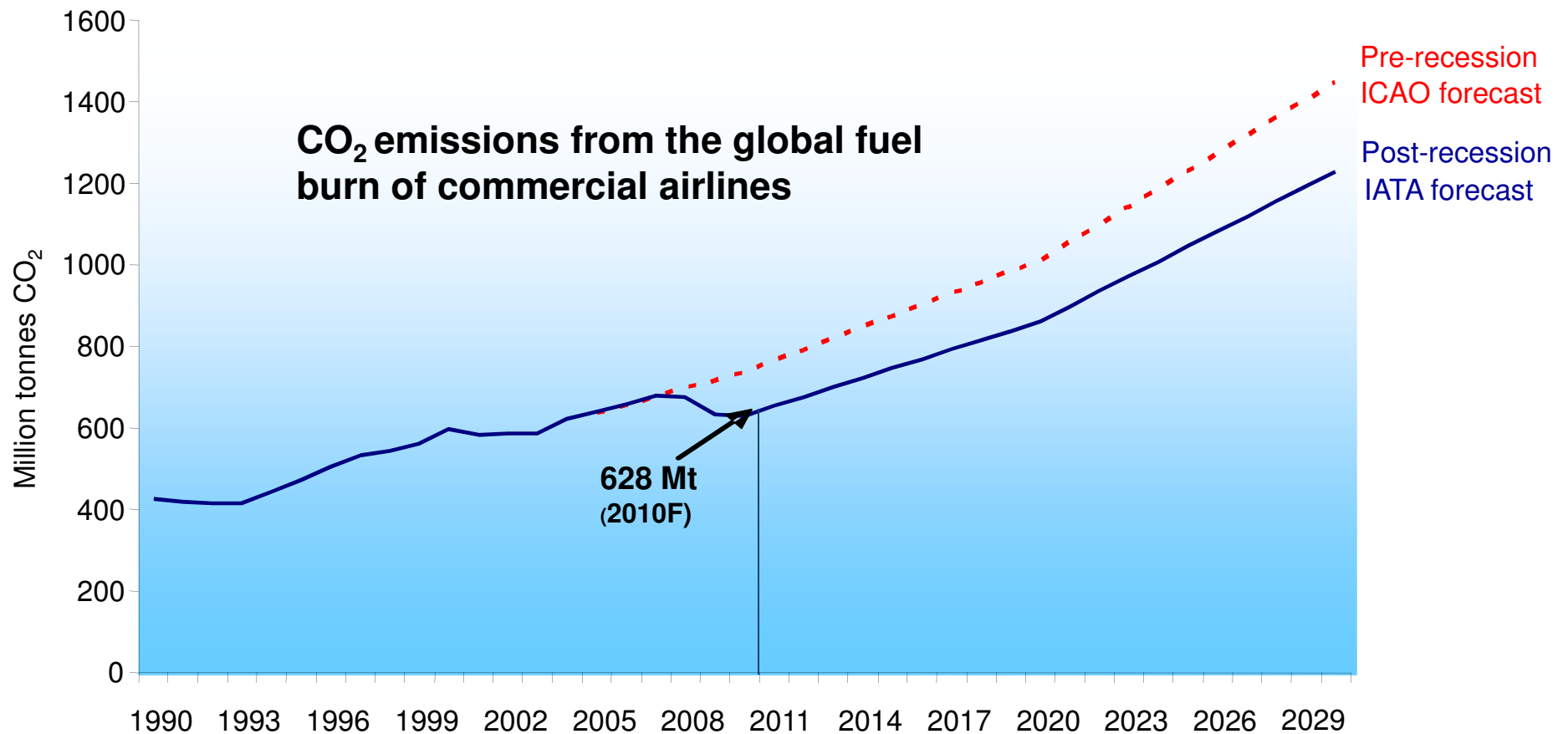
# Air transport climate change contribution

Our carbon footprint is small but growing

- From 2% today to 3% in 2050 (IPCC)

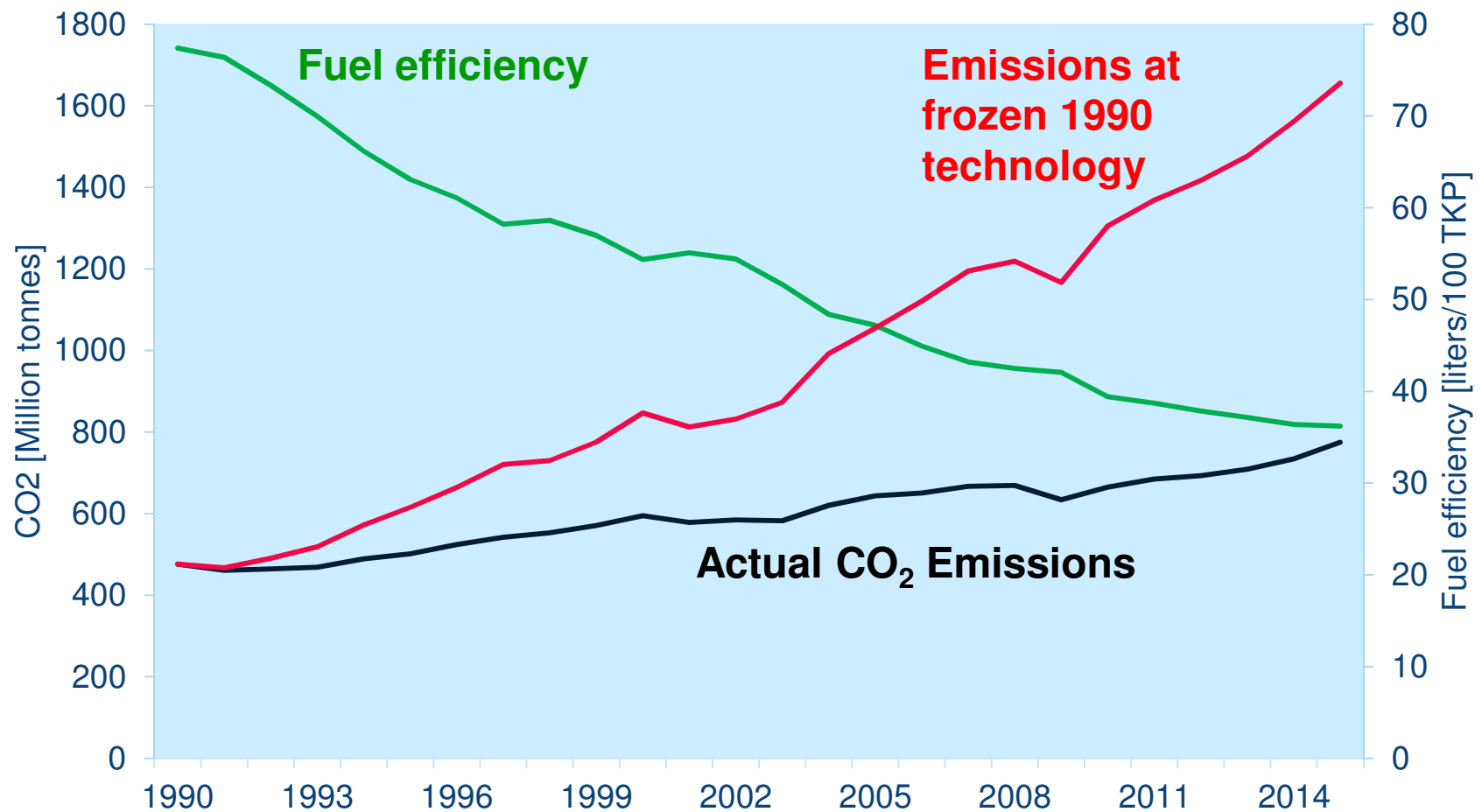


# Aviation faces emissions challenge...





.....but our track record is strong





# Industry Commitment on Climate Change

Geneva 2008



## Four pillars of climate action

- T** TECHNOLOGY
- O** OPERATIONS
- I** INFRASTRUCTURE
- M** MARKET-BASED MEASURE



# Three goals...

(commitment by all aviation industry sectors in 2009)

## GOAL 1

PRE-2020 AMBITION

**1.5% ANNUAL  
AVERAGE FUEL  
EFFICIENCY  
IMPROVEMENT  
FROM 2009 TO  
2020.**

**T O I**

## GOAL 2

IN LINE WITH THE NEXT  
UNFCCC COMMITMENT PERIOD

**STABILISE NET  
AVIATION CO<sub>2</sub>  
EMISSIONS AT  
2020 LEVELS  
WITH CARBON-  
NEUTRAL  
GROWTH.**

**T O I + M**

## GOAL 3

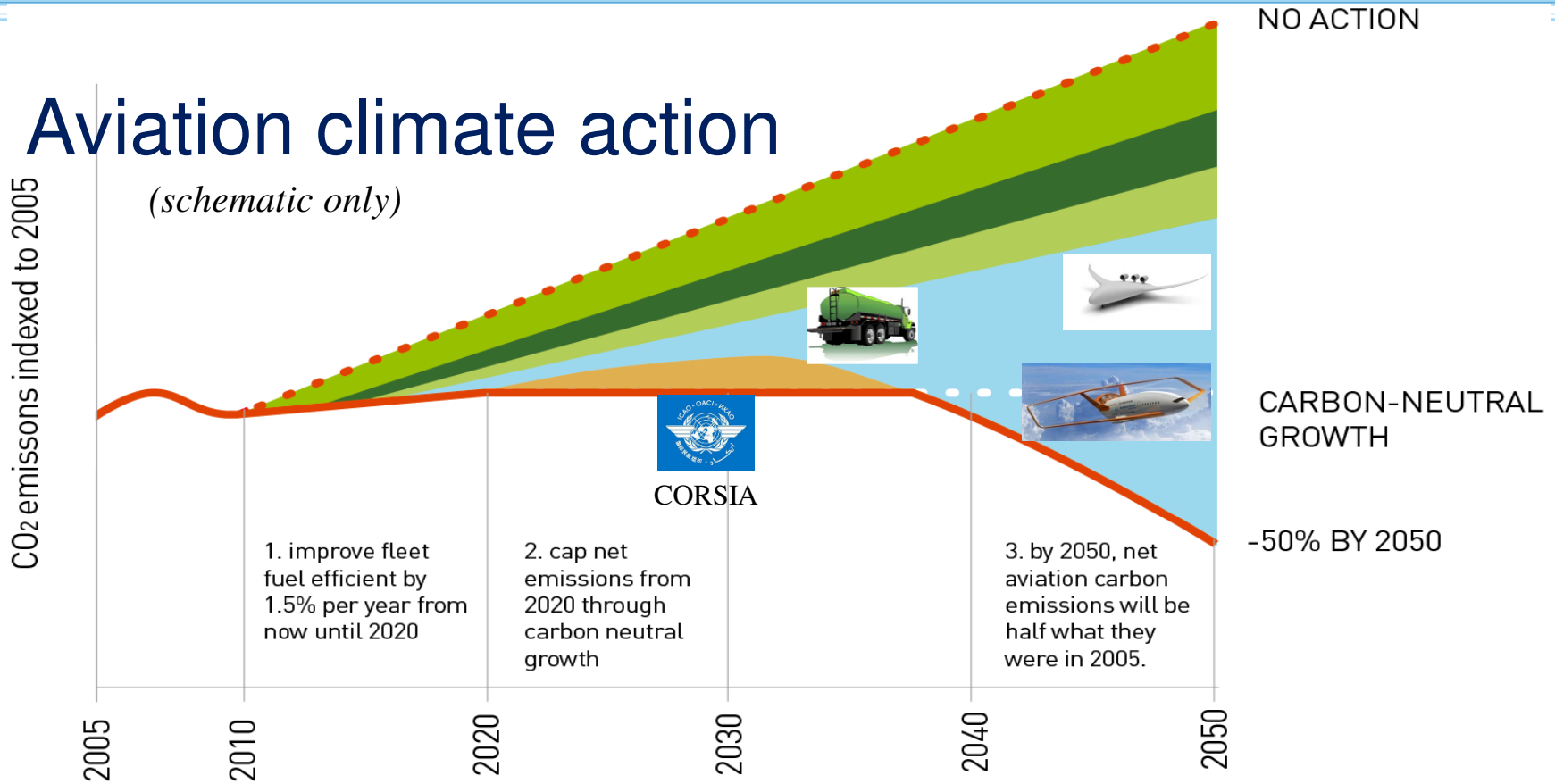
ON THE 2°C PATHWAY

**REDUCE  
AVIATION'S NET  
CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS  
TO 50% OF WHAT  
THEY WERE IN  
2005, BY 2050.**

**T O I**

# Aviation climate action

*(schematic only)*



Known technology, operations and infrastructure measures

Biofuels and additional new-generation technologies

Economic measures

Net emissions trajectory

'No actions' trajectory 11 May 2017



# ICAO and Environment



ICAO Assembly (191 States)

ICAO Council (36 Members)

Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP)  
24 Members (States)

15 Observers (States, Intergovernmental organisations, Industry and NGOs)

WG1	WG2	WG3	FESG	MDG	GMTF	AFTF	ACCS	ISG
Noise technical	Airports & Operations	Emissions Technical	Forecasting & Economic Support	Modeling & Databases	Global MBM Technical	Alt Fuels	Aviation Carbon Calculator	Impact & Science

# ICAO Environmental Goals

- Limit or reduce the impact of aviation **GHG emissions** on global climate
- Limit or reduce the impact of aviation emissions on **local air quality**
- Limit or reduce the number of people affected by significant **aircraft noise**



# ICAO Basket of measures for climate action

- CO<sub>2</sub> Standard
- Operational measures
- Market-based measures (CORSA)
- Alternative fuels for aviation



## CO<sub>2</sub> Standard – definition

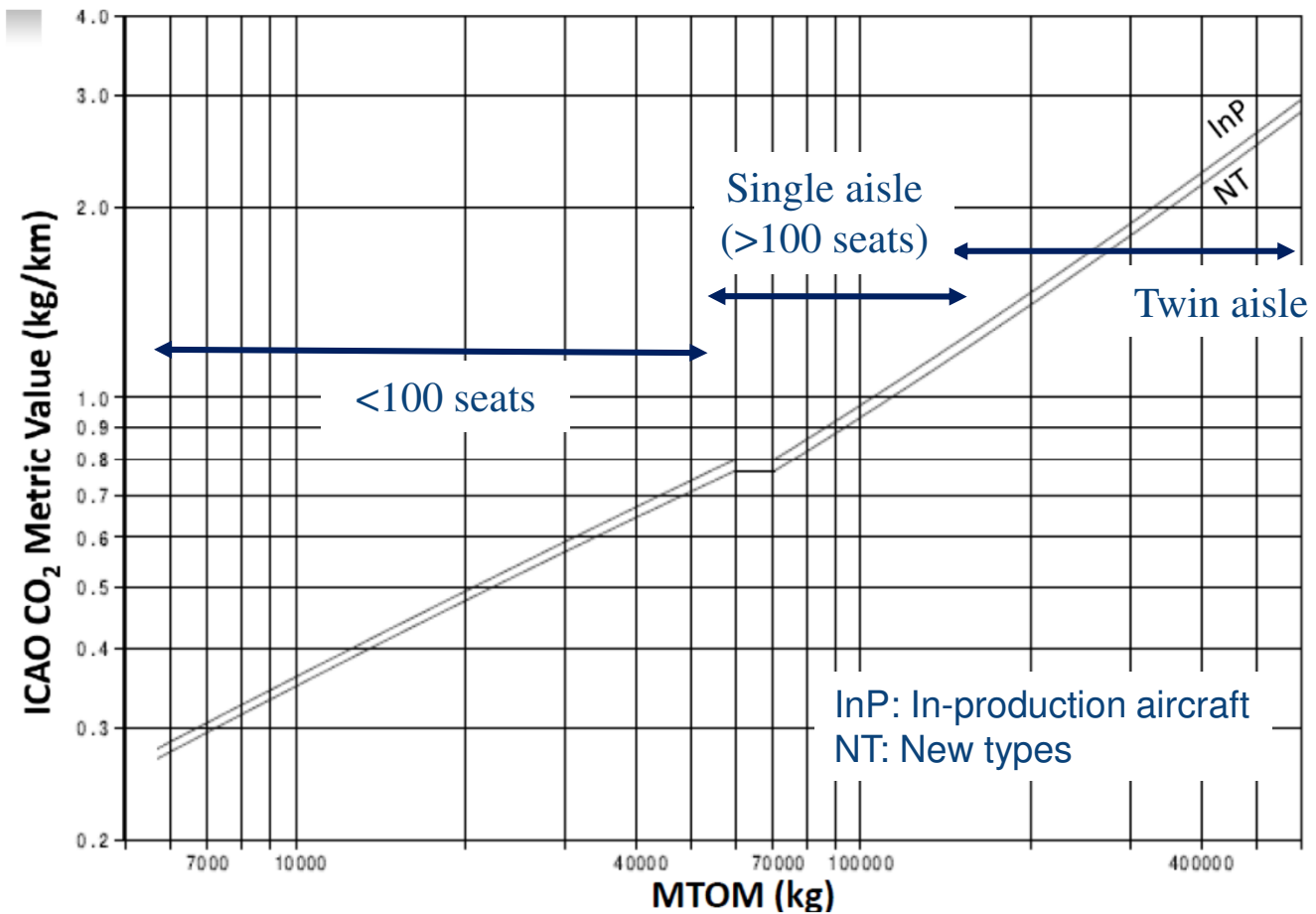
- ↗ CO<sub>2</sub> standard adopted in 2016 after 6 years of development and negotiations
- ↗ Metric value:

$$MV = \frac{1/SAR}{RGF^{0.24}} \text{ as a function of MTOW}$$

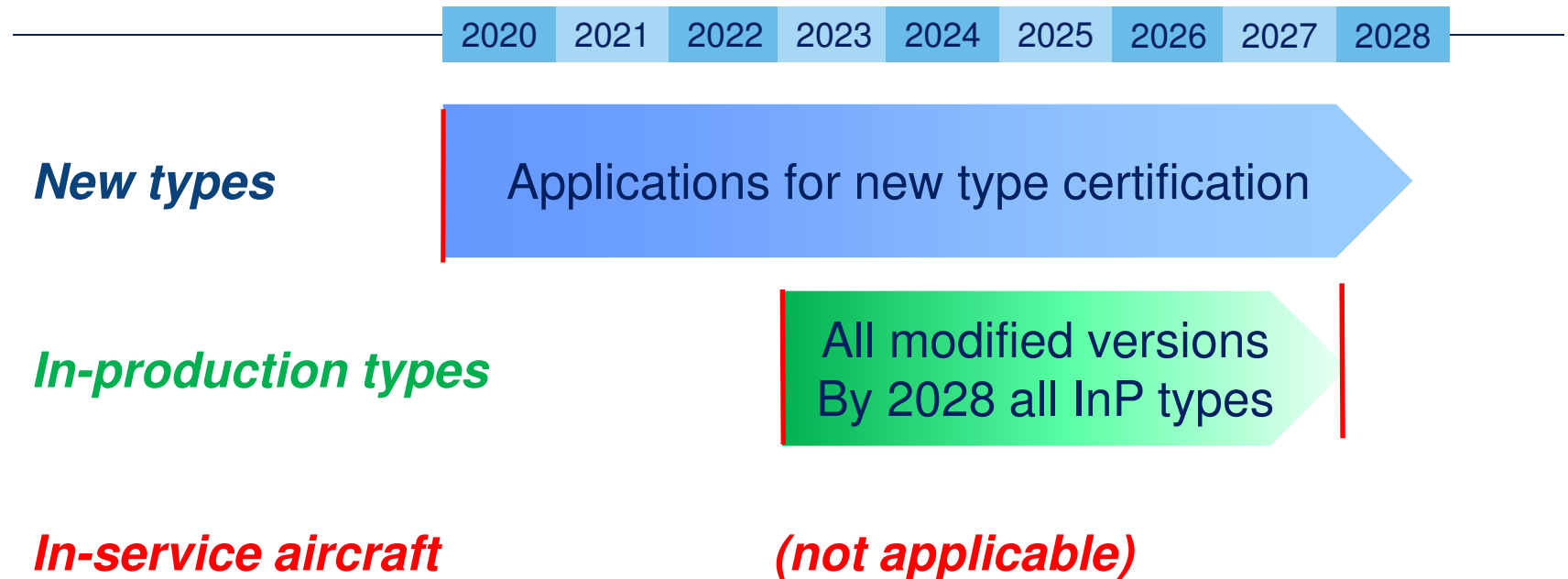
- ↗ SAR: Specific air range [km/kg]
  - ↗ (1/SAR: “fuel consumption” [kg/km])
- ↗ RGF: Reference geometric factor (similar to cabin area)



# CO<sub>2</sub> Standard – certification limit



# CO<sub>2</sub> Standard – applicability



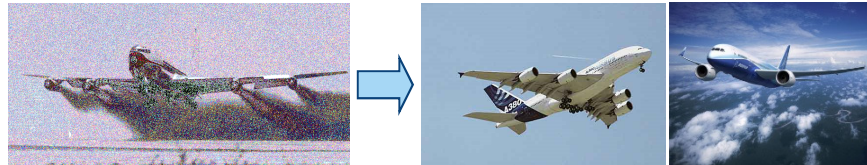
Not designed to serve as a basis for operating restrictions or emissions levies



# Fuel-efficient aircraft technologies

# Strong track record

- Over the last 50 years
  - Hydrocarbons: -90%
  - Soot: eliminated
  - Noise: -75%
  - Fuel burn: -70%
- Well on track with our target:
  - 2.2% p.a. in average between 2008 and 2015
- New aircraft help
  - A380, B787, A350 consuming less than 3 l / 100 pax km





# Research & Technology Goals

## ACARE Environmental Goals

	Noise	CO <sub>2</sub>	Other emissions	Green life cycle	Alternative fuels
Vision 2020 objectives (ref 2000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Halve perceived noise = <b>- 10 dB per operation</b></li> <li>65 LDEN at airport boundaries (no-one impacted outside airport boundaries)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Decrease CO<sub>2</sub> by 50%</b> per pass.km</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Decrease NO<sub>x</sub> by 80%</b> (eq. - 60%/CAEP6)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in reducing the environmental impact of the lifecycle of aircraft</li> </ul>	None
Flightpath 2050 objectives (ref 2000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce by 65% perceived noise = <b>- 15 dB per operation</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Decrease CO<sub>2</sub> by 75%</b> per pass.km</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Decrease NO<sub>x</sub> by 90%</b></li> <li>Europe at the forefront of atmospheric research</li> <li>Emission-free taxiing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air vehicles are recyclable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Europe centre of excellence on sustainable alternative fuels</li> </ul>

# ERA System Level Goal – Multi-Objective In Nature

## Subsonic Transport System Level Metrics



### NASA Subsonic Transport Metrics

v2013.1

TECHNOLOGY BENEFITS*	TECHNOLOGY GENERATIONS (Technology Readiness Level = 4-6)		
	N+1 (2015)	N+2 (2020**)	N+3 (2025)
Noise (cum margin rel. to Stage 4)	-32 dB	-42 dB	-52 dB
LTO NOx Emissions (rel. to CAEP 6)	-60%	-75%	-80%
Cruise NOx Emissions (rel. to 2005 best in class)	-55%	-70%	-80%
Aircraft Fuel/Energy Consumption <sup>‡</sup> (rel. to 2005 best in class)	-33%	-50%	-60%

\* Projected benefits once technologies are matured and implemented by industry. Benefits vary by vehicle size and mission. N+1 and N+3 values are referenced to a 737-800 with CFM56-7B engines, N+2 values are referenced to a 777-200 with GE90 engines

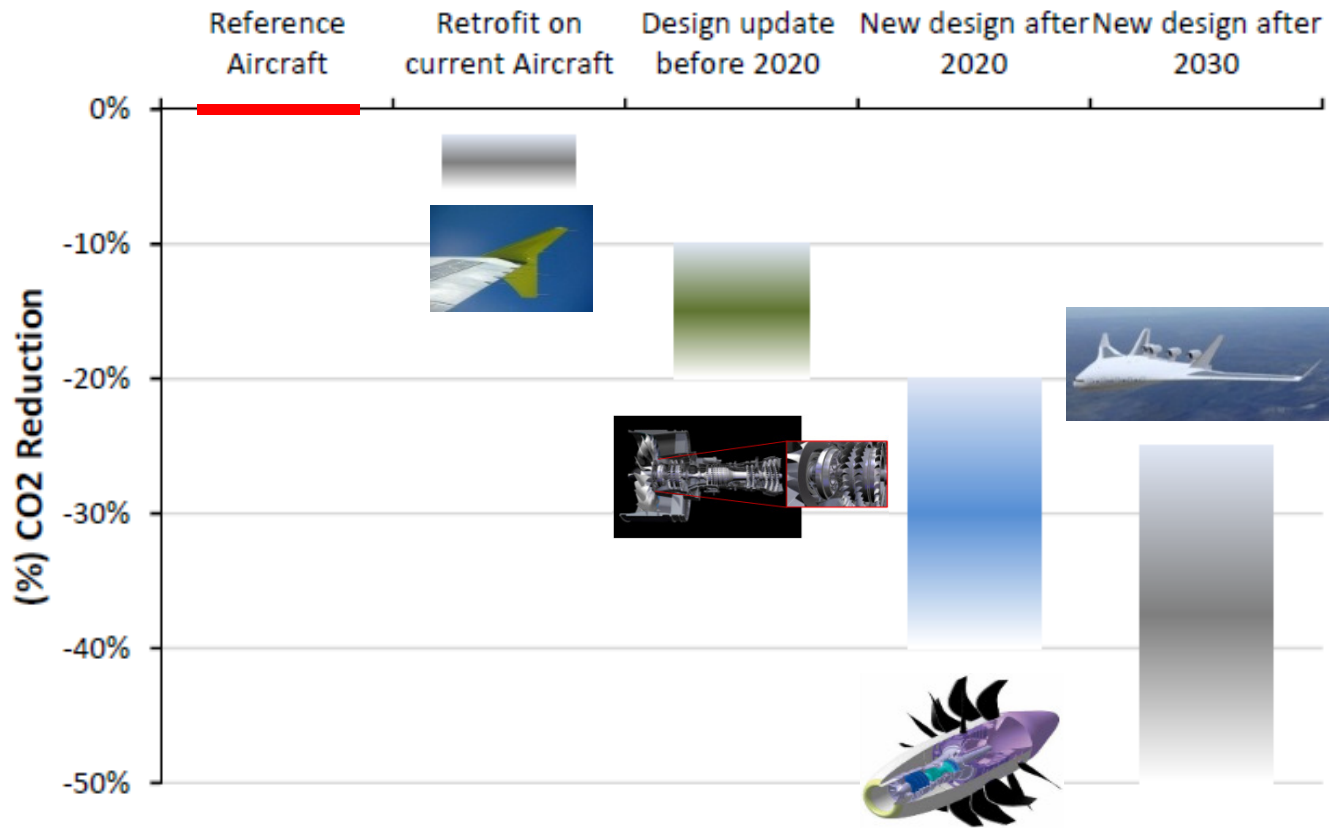
\*\* ERA's time-phased approach includes advancing "long-pole" technologies to TRL 6 by 2015

‡ CO2 emission benefits dependent on life-cycle CO2e per MJ for fuel and/or energy source used

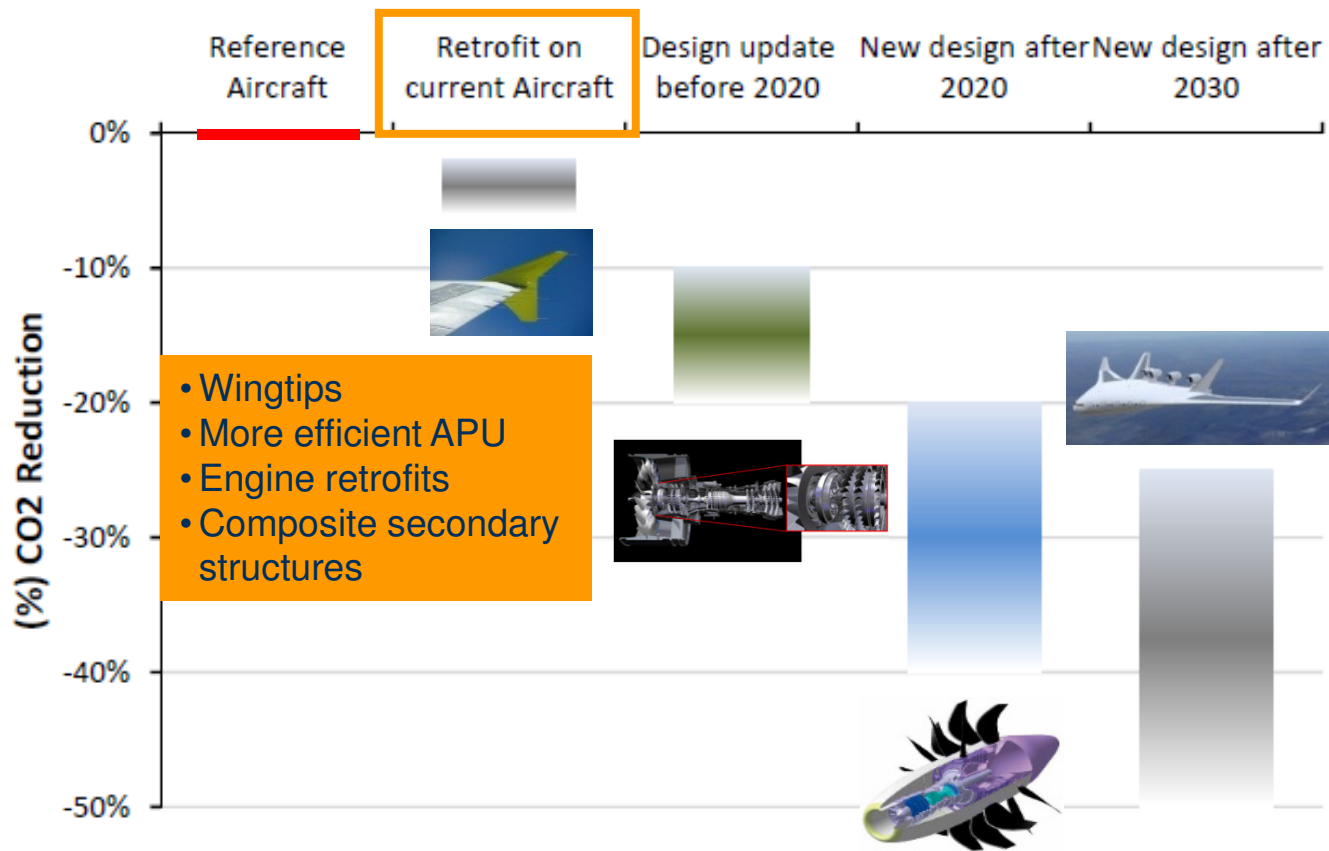
The ERA Project's goal is to identify and mature technologies and advanced configurations that, when integrated, can **simultaneously** meet the N+2 noise, LTO NOx, and fuel burn reduction metrics

# Technology – Fuel saving potential

(IATA Technology Roadmap – TERESA project with DLR Hamburg)

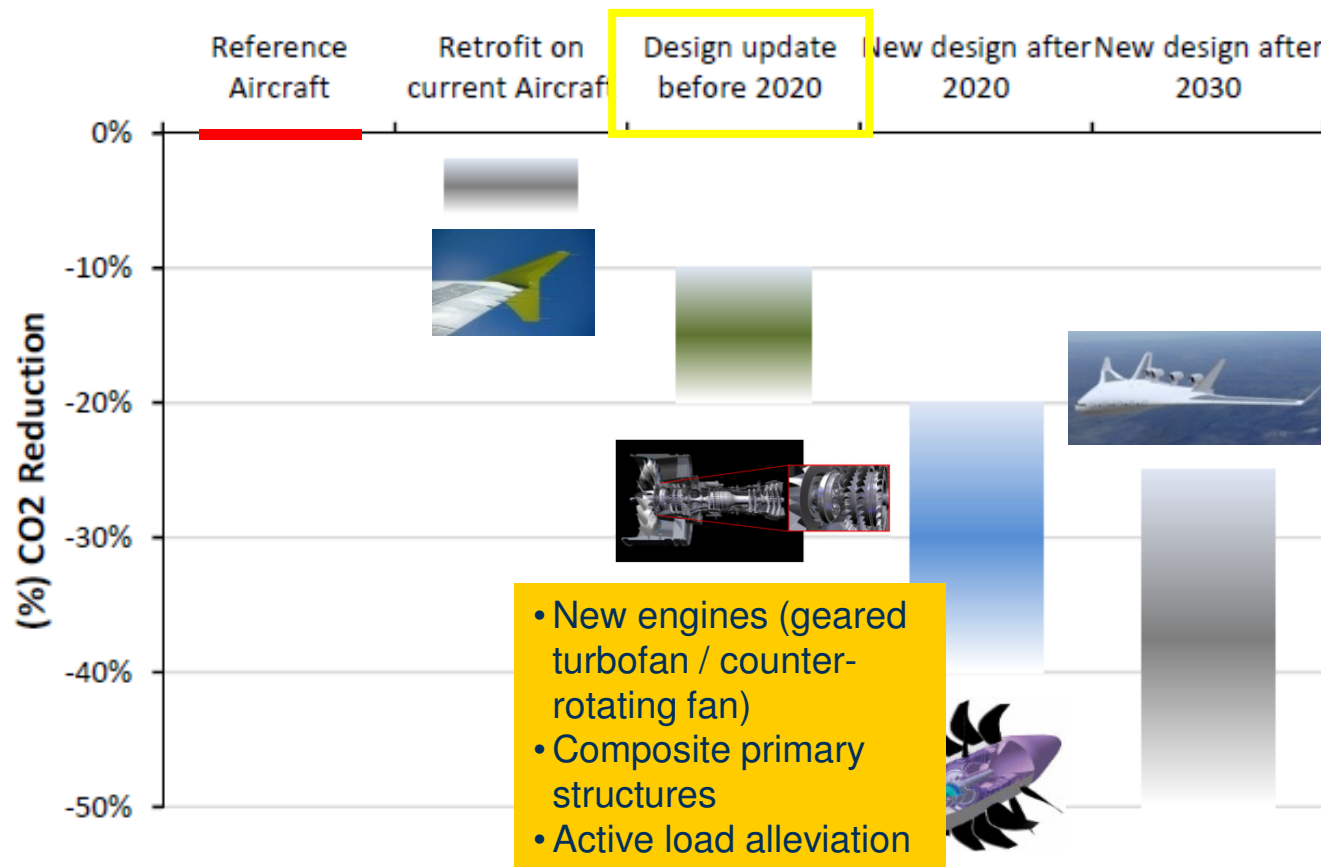


# Technology – Fuel saving potential

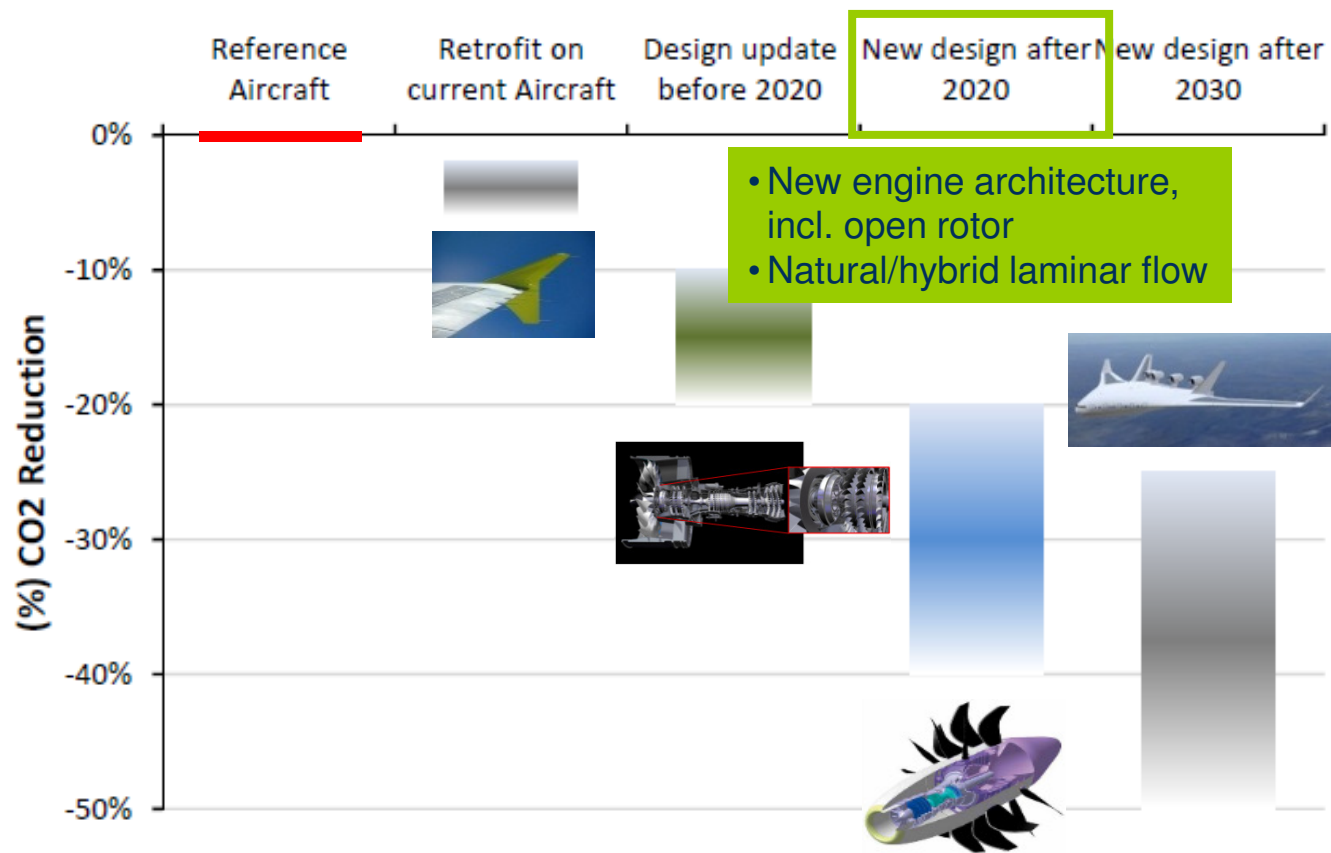




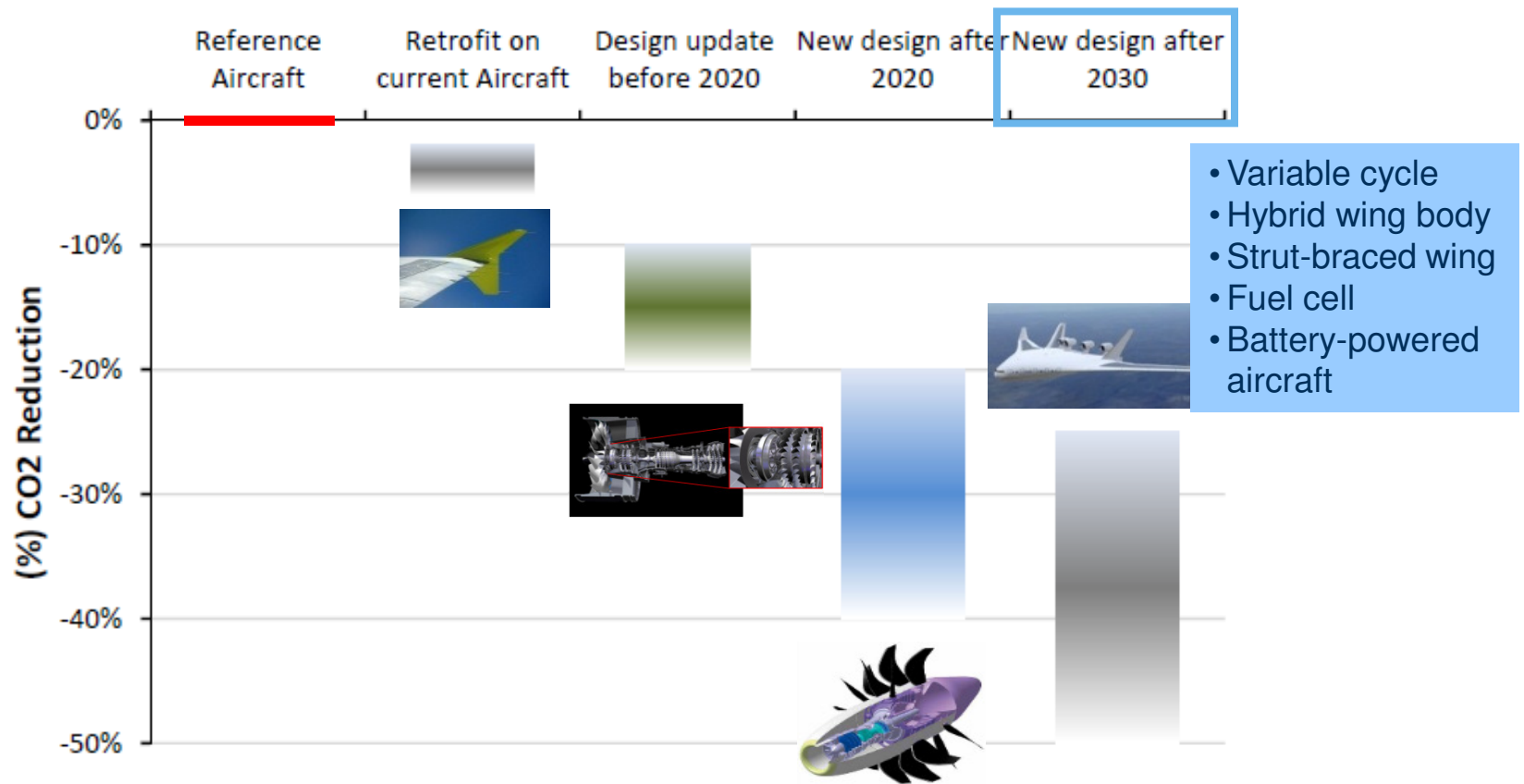
# Technology – Fuel saving potential



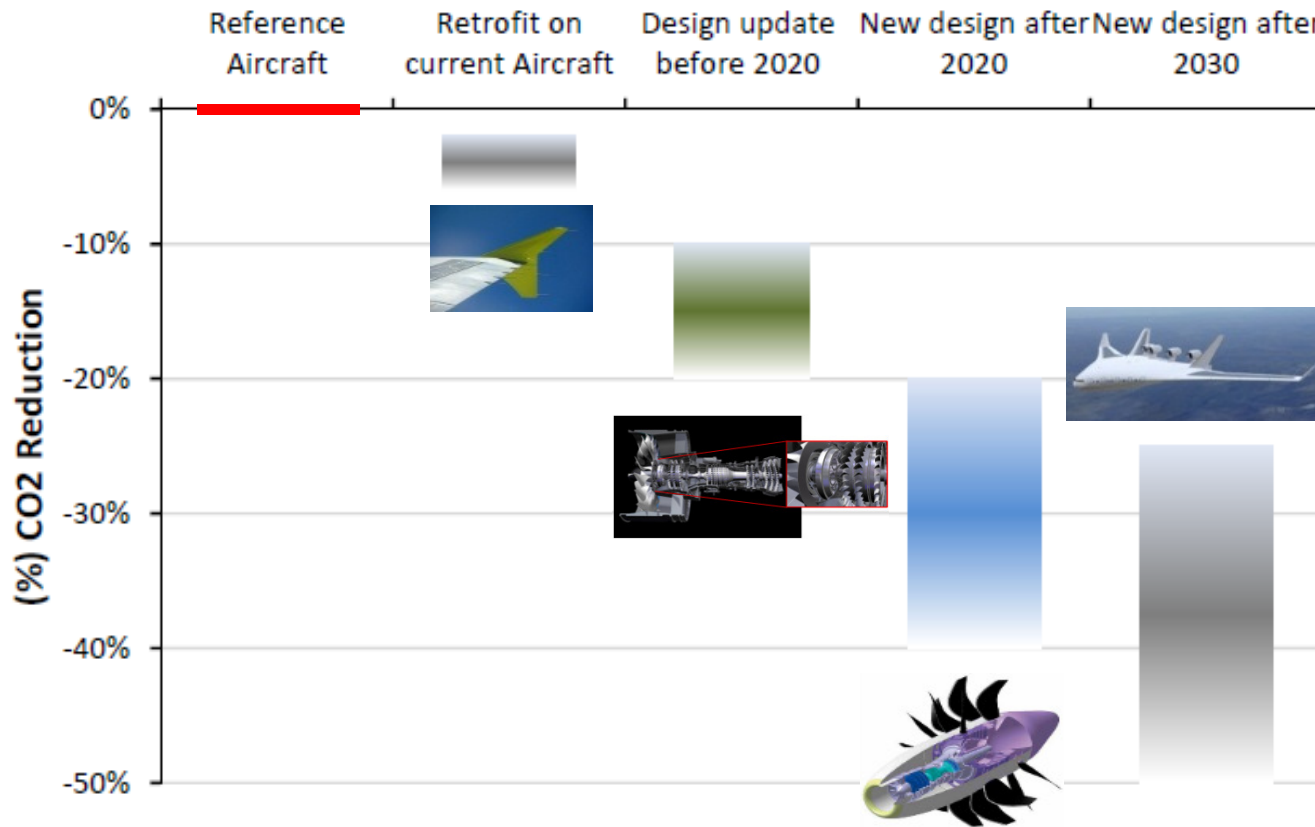
# Technology – Fuel saving potential



# Technology – Fuel saving potential

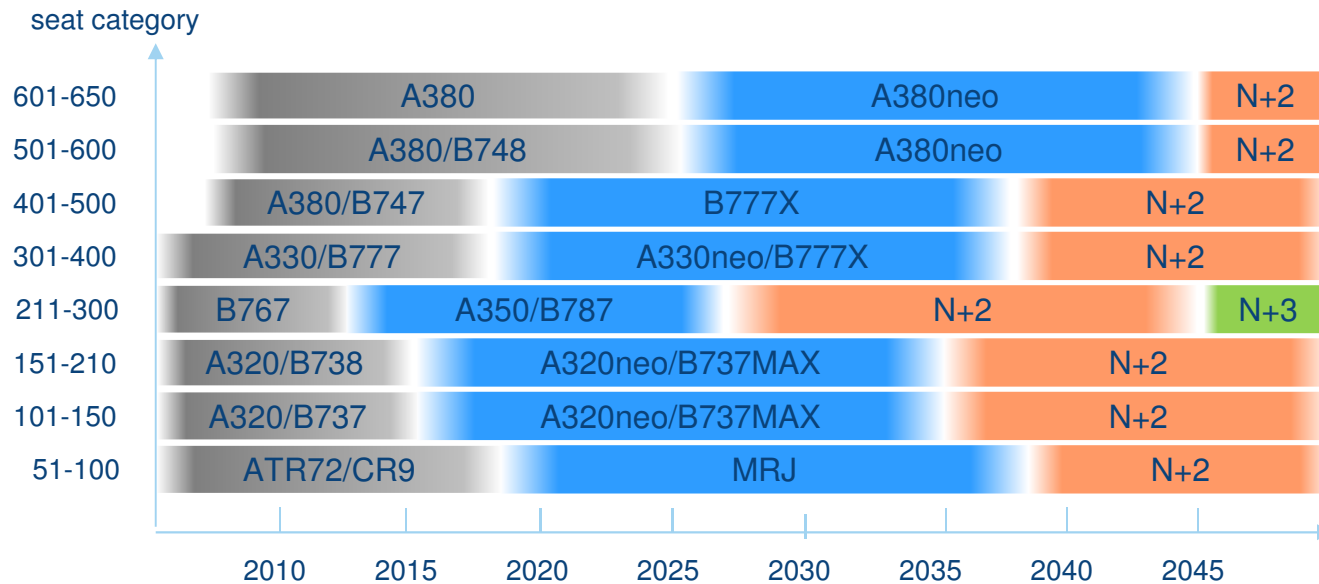


# Technology – Fuel saving potential



34000 new aircraft over next 20 years (20000 growth, 14000 replacement)  
 Investment \$4.5 trillion

# Stepwise fleet renewal



Future fuel efficiency improvement occurs stepwise, depending on introduction timescale of new aircraft generations (every 15 to 20 years in each seat category)

# Radically new aircraft configurations

*(AIRCAT project with DLR Hamburg)*

- Evolutionary aircraft configurations: Limited improvement potential
- Driven by environmental goals →

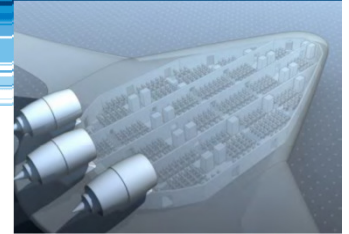
Many new projects on radically new configurations over the last few years:

- Other than tube-and-wing (e.g. blended wing body)
- New propulsion (e.g. open rotor)
- New structural configurations (e.g. double-bubble, strut-braced wing, box wing)
- New energy sources (e.g. battery-powered)
- etc.



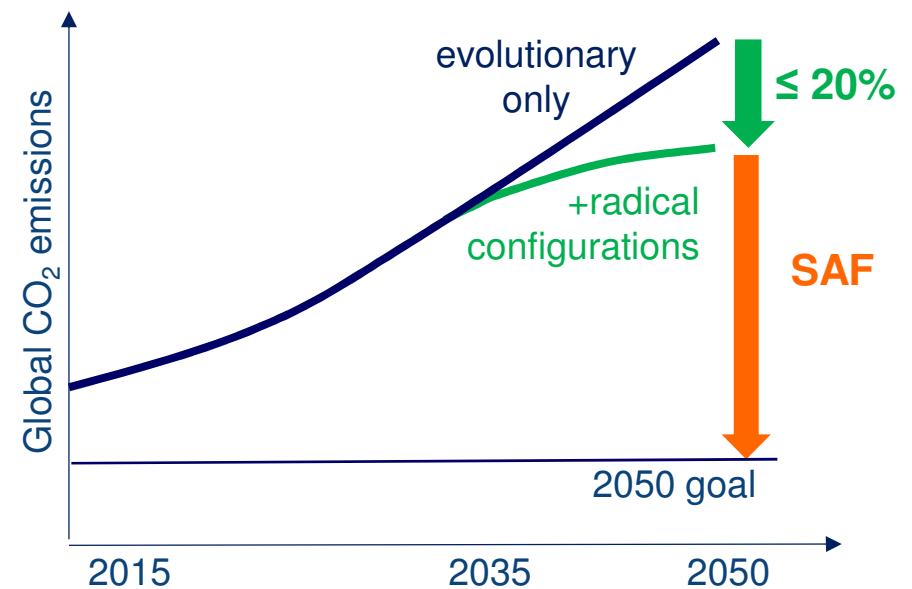
# Operational impacts

- Non-tube & wing configurations – blended wing body:
  - Passenger experience, Evacuation, Airport compatibility
- Slower flight speed – open rotor, battery aircraft:
  - Flight time, ATM integration
- New energies – electric, LNG etc.:
  - Connect airport to supply network
  - Adapt aircraft engines and fuel/power systems
- Radically new operational schemes could further contribute to fuel/CO<sub>2</sub> efficiency, e.g. formation flight



# Impact on global fuel efficiency

- ↗ Radically new configurations:
  - ↗ Slow market penetration due to fleet renewal cycles
  - ↗ Could play a larger role beyond 2050
- ↗ Sustainable fuels
  - ↗ Will have to contribute largest part to 2050 CO<sub>2</sub> reduction goal
  - ↗ Fast uptake of drop-in fuels once available



Source: IATA/DLR AIRCAT study



# Outlook

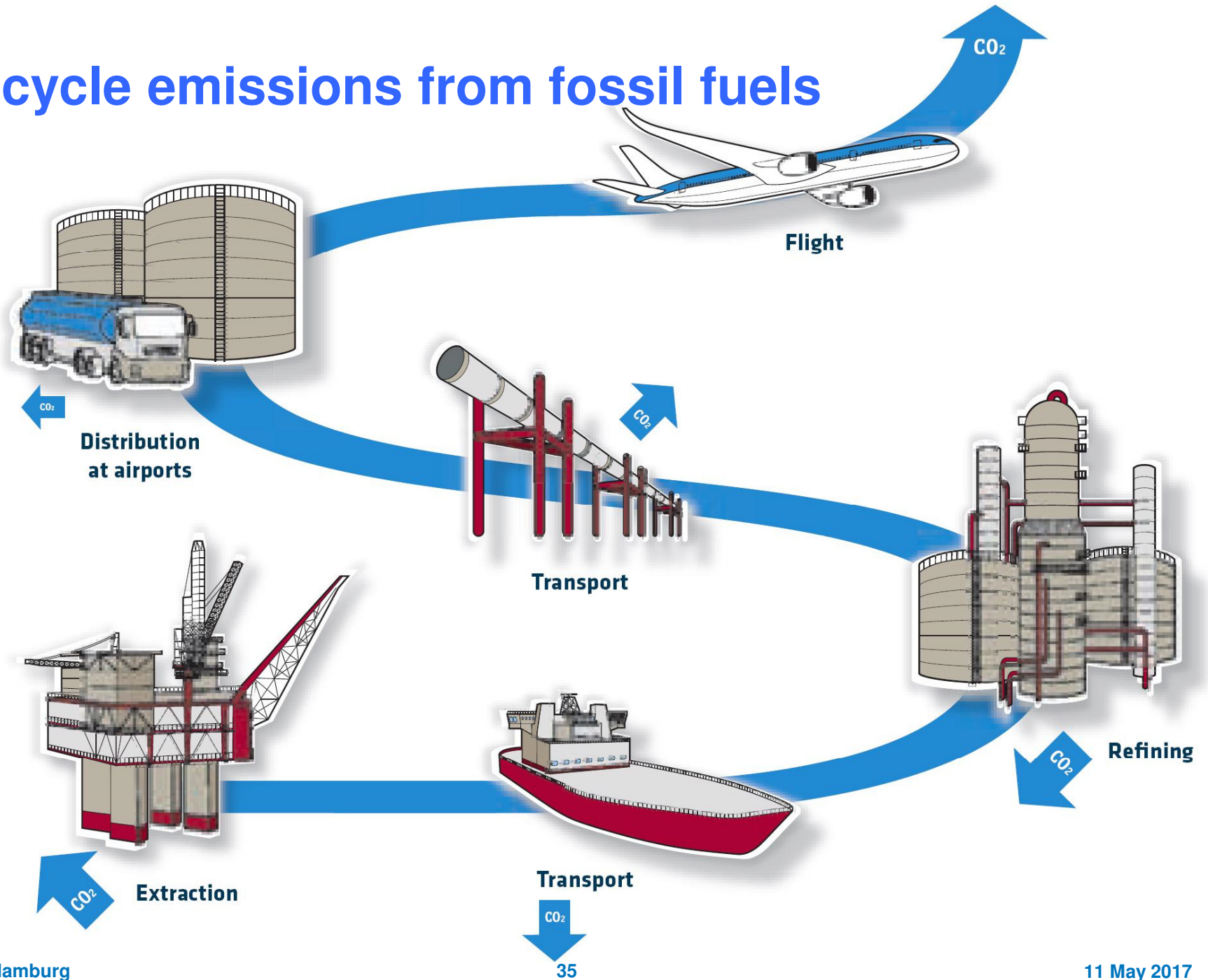
- Radically new concepts and technologies will likely be needed in the long term to meet the aviation climate goals
- Need to secure globally:
  - Reliable continuous energy supply
  - Airport compatibility
  - Passenger acceptance
- Way forward for implementation
  - Start low-level technology development early
  - Plan infrastructure and operational adaptation early
  - Plan long lead times and high investments
  - Accelerate market penetration

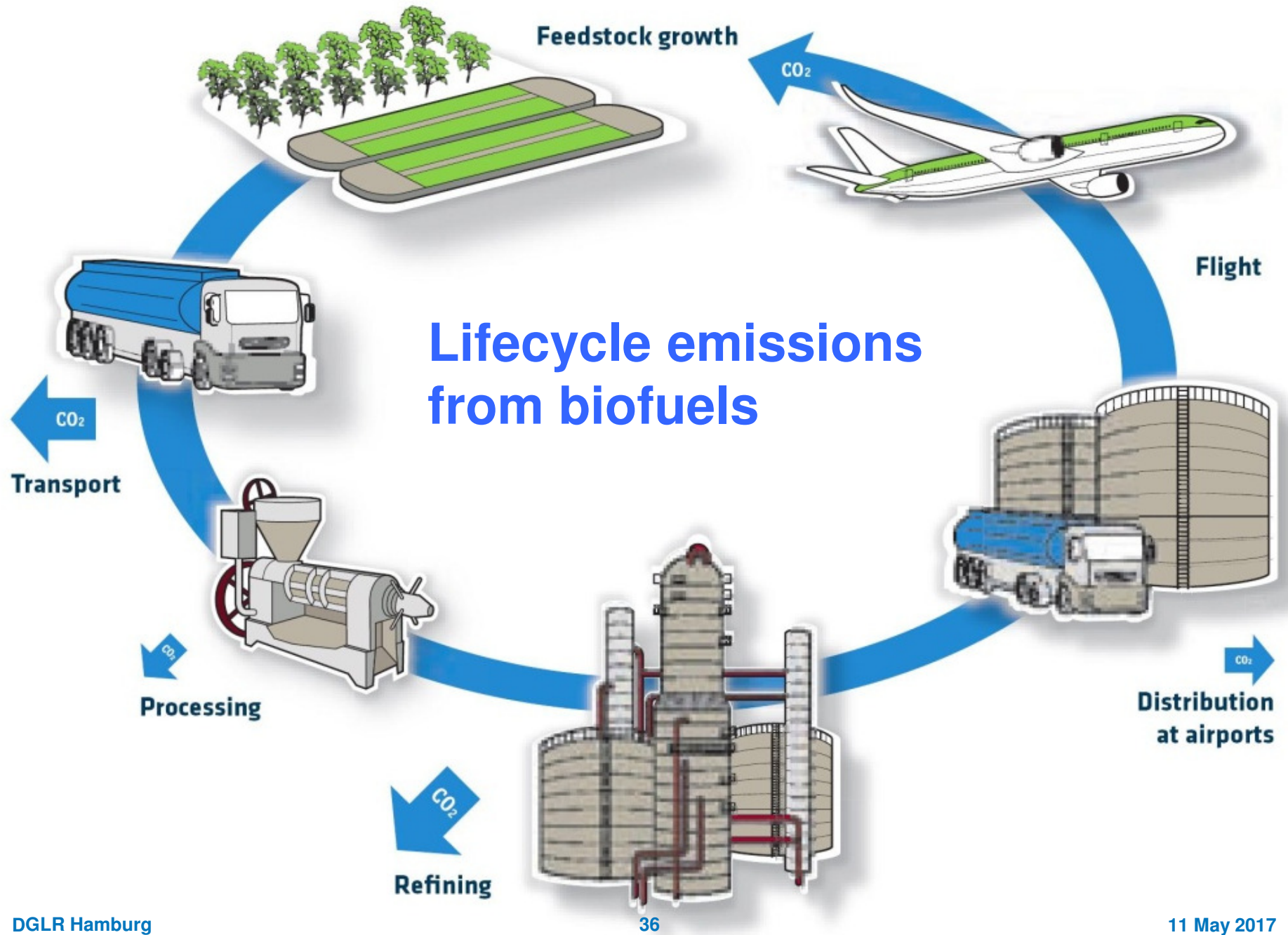




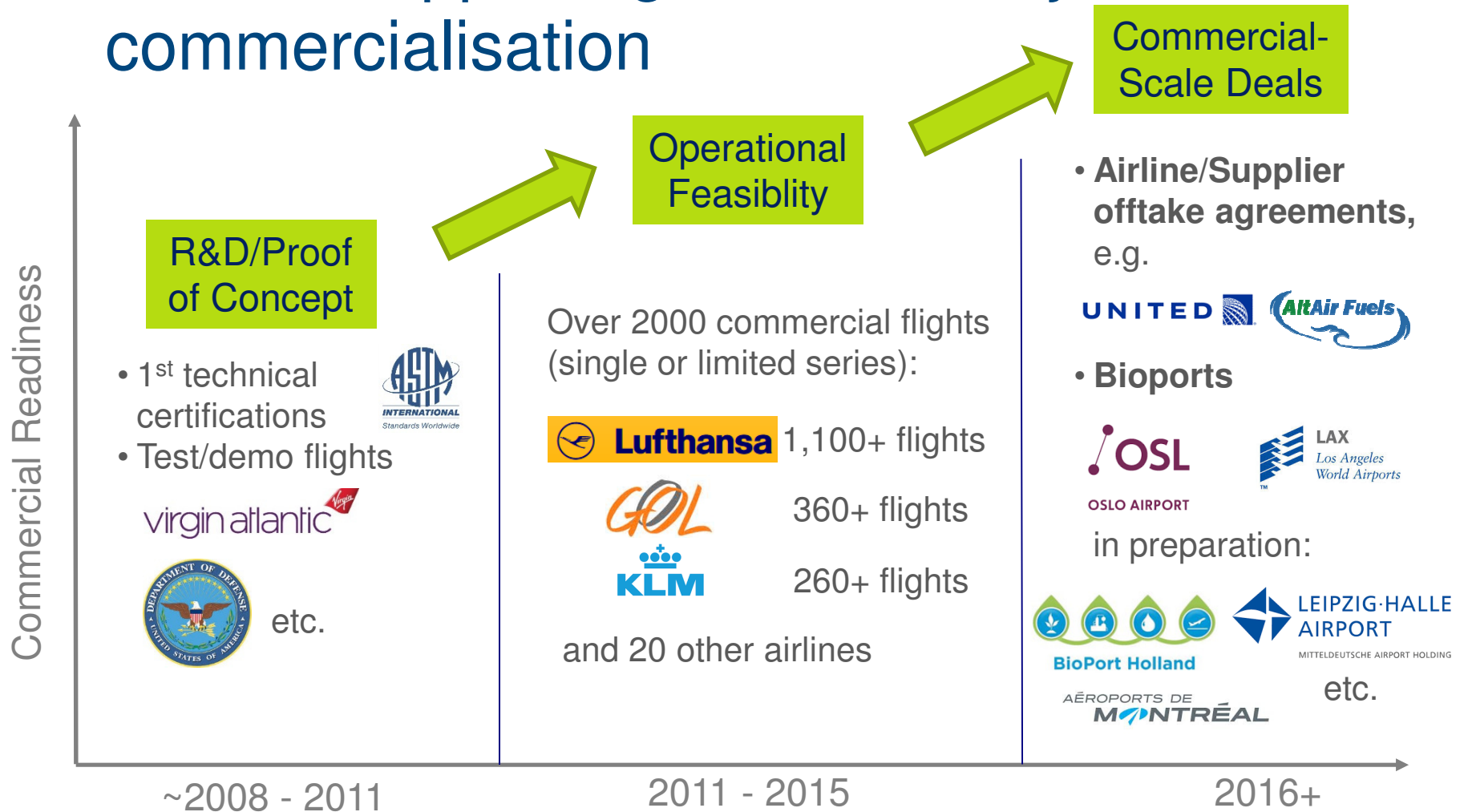
# Sustainable aviation fuels

# Lifecycle emissions from fossil fuels



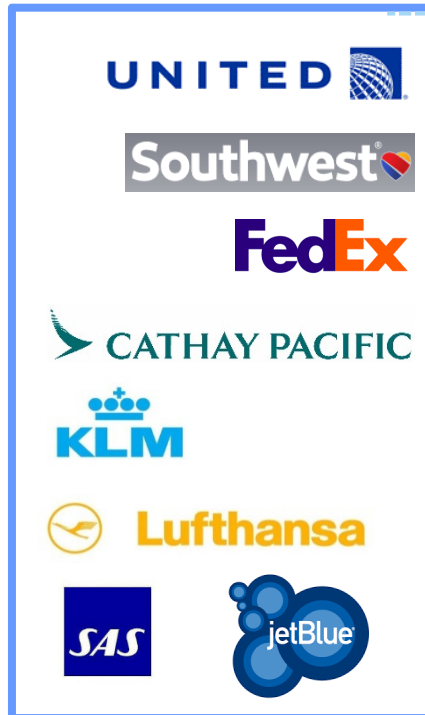


# Airlines supporting sustainable jet fuel commercialisation



# Reaching Commercial Scale

## Airline/supplier offtake agreements



- First bioport with regular operations: Oslo Airport started 22 Jan 2016
- United/AltAir operations started 11 March 2016
- Largest agreement (United/Fulcrum) over 270'000 t/year
- In addition, strong investments by US government (incl. military)

# Requirements for sustainable aviation fuels (SAF)

## ➤ Drop-in

- Can be blended with existing jet fuel
- No need for adaptation of aircraft / engines nor parallel infrastructure
- Technically certified as equivalent to conventional jet fuel

## ➤ Sustainability

- Essential requirement for majority of airline customers
- Working with ICAO on globally harmonized criteria

## ➤ Economic viability

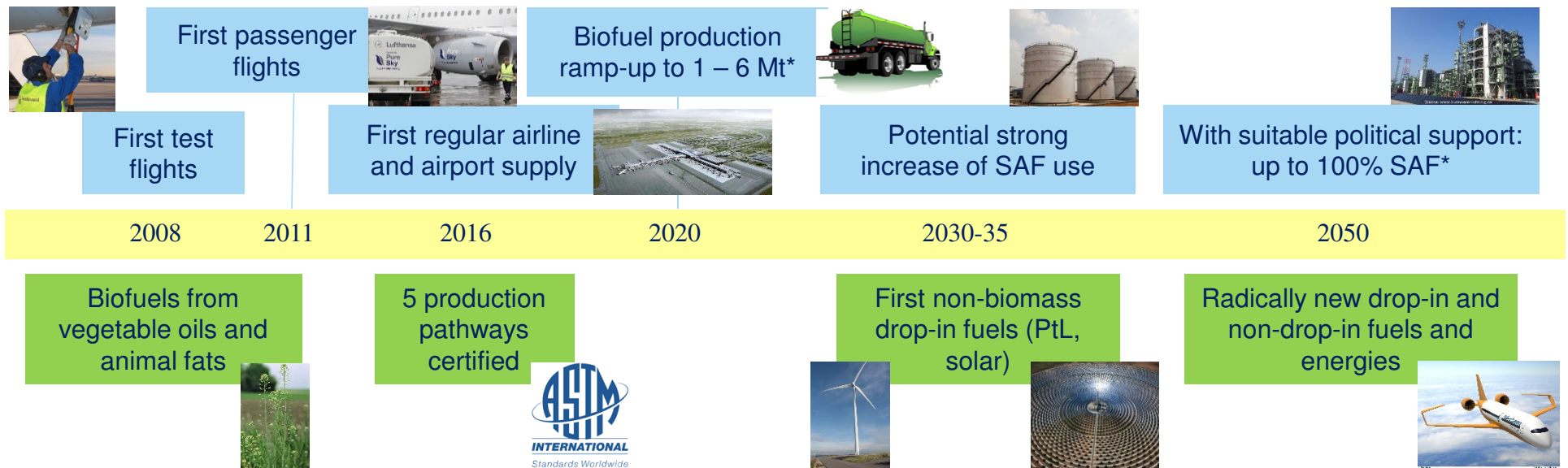
- Bridge the cost gap with Jet A-1 fuel
- Ensure a level policy play field between road and air
- Effective political support needed for sustainable jet fuel deployment

## ➤ Cooperation

- Engagement of producers, suppliers, aviation industry and governments, EC and ICAO is essential



# Sustainable aviation fuels – Timescale



\*IATA/MIT/ICAO study



# Sustainable aviation fuels – Way forward

- Sustainable aviation fuels can be a major instrument to meeting aviation's long-term emissions reduction goals
- Since early 2016, continuous supply starting:
  - Airline/supplier offtake agreements (mostly US)
  - Bioports
- Today's barriers are economic rather than technical
- Sustainability is key requirement for most aviation customers
- Positive political and legislative framework needed
- In the mid-to-long term, non-biological SAF solutions (from industrial waste gases, Power-to-Liquid, Solar jet fuel)



# Global market-based measure

# Aviation's global market-based measure

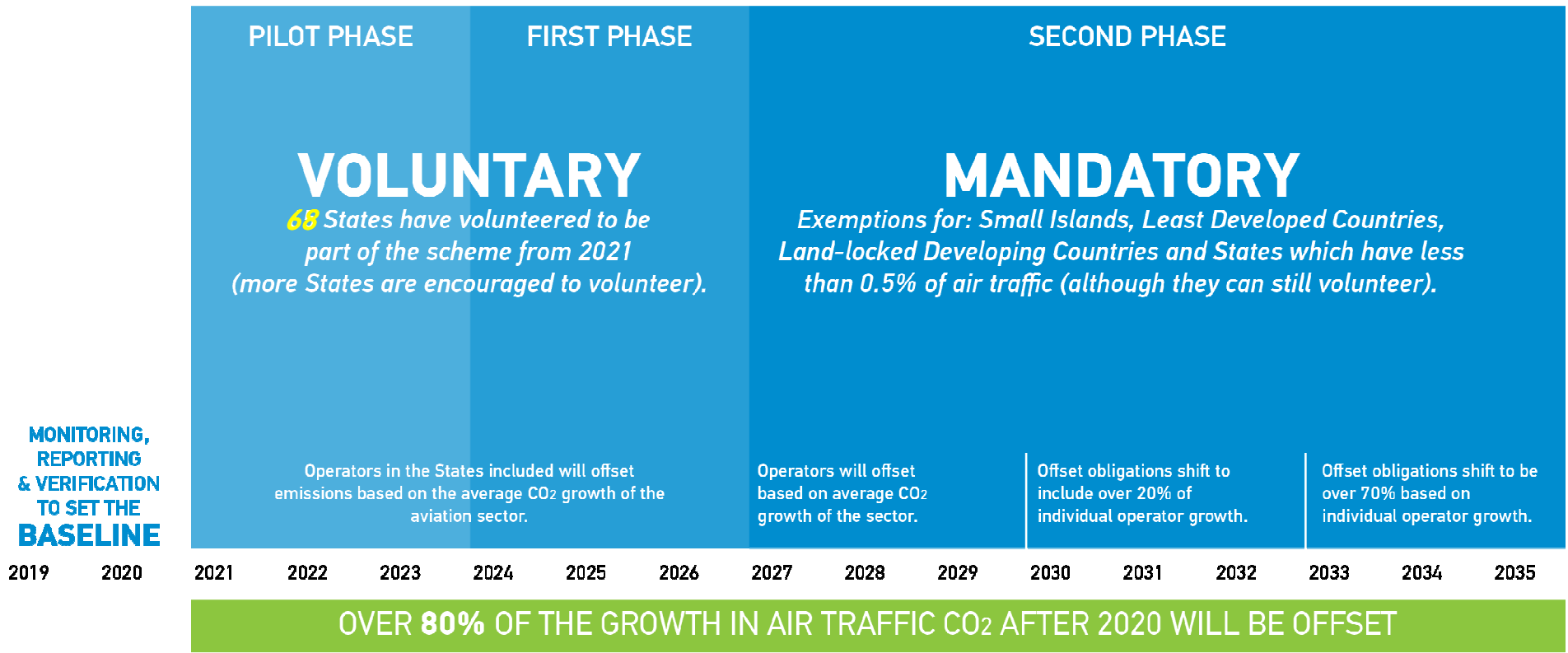


- Paris Agreement provided momentum to ICAO discussions
  - Aviation and shipping to be progressed through ICAO and IMO
- Historic decision at ICAO Assembly
  - Nearly all 191 ICAO States supported 'CORSA'
- Industry was instrumental in agreement
  - Seven years since industry set goals and started pushing for a global MBM



# How does CORSIA work?

- Addresses increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international civil aviation above 2020 levels



# States included in the first (voluntary) phases

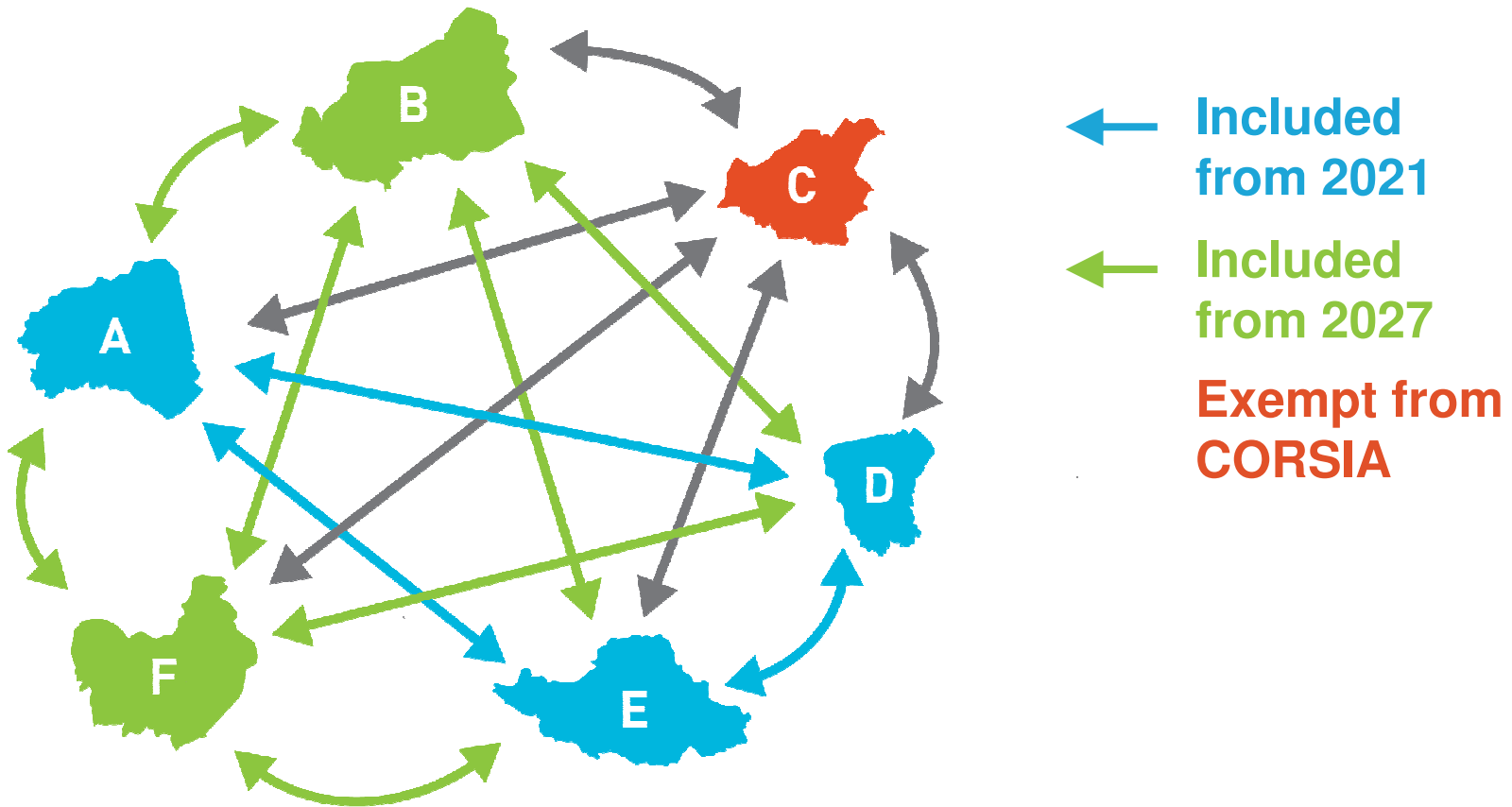


AS OF 12 OCTOBER 2016, **66 STATES** HAVE

VOLUNTEERED TO BE PART OF CORSIA FROM THE START.

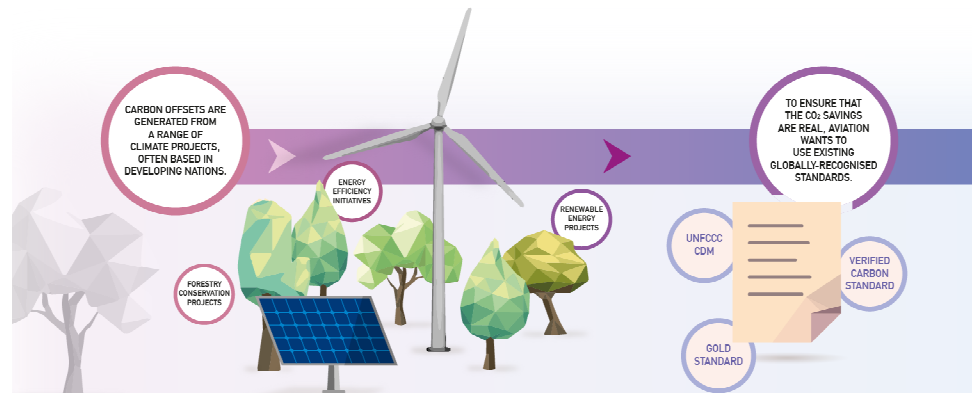
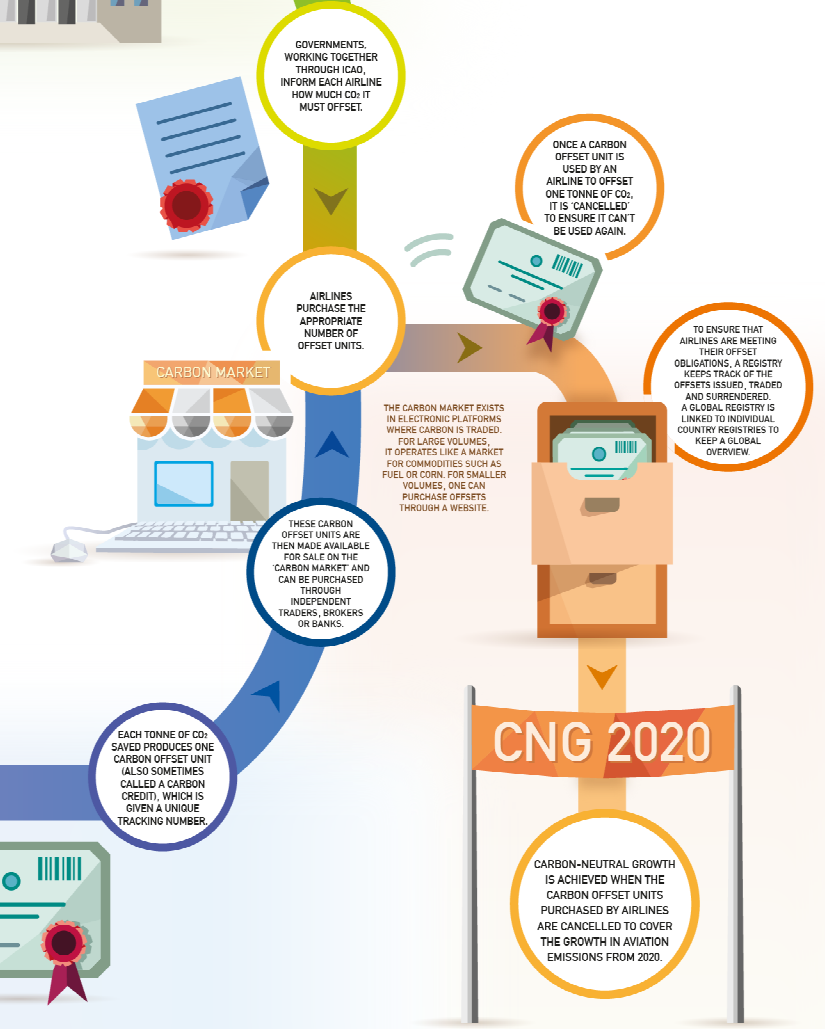
# Route-based approach

→ limited market distortion





# How will offsetting work for aviation?





# Local air quality





# Local air quality

- Focus on airport surroundings, usually close to urban and residential areas
  - Aircraft emissions contributing to local air quality (LAQ) concerns:
    - Nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>)
    - Unburnt hydrocarbons (UHC)
    - Carbon monoxide (CO)
    - Particulate Matter (PM)
      - New ICAO standard under development (to replace “smoke number”)
      - New standard will consider PM mass and number (important for ultrafine particles)
    - Sulphur oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>) – depend on fuel composition only
- } Regulated in ICAO certification standard (Annex 16, Vol. II)

# Local air quality

Multitude of emissions in airport areas:

- Aircraft operations
  - Landing, takeoff, taxiing, turnaround
- Ground service equipment (GSE)
  - Fuel & catering trucks, tugs etc.
  - **Can be run electric, with hydrogen, etc.**
- Other airside and landside vehicles
  - Cars, taxis, buses, trains, etc.
- Stationary power generation plants
- Maintenance and handling activities
  - Fuel storage, de-icing, etc.
  
- **LAQ measurements do not distinguish origin of pollutants**
- **Alternative fuels reduce LAQ impact**





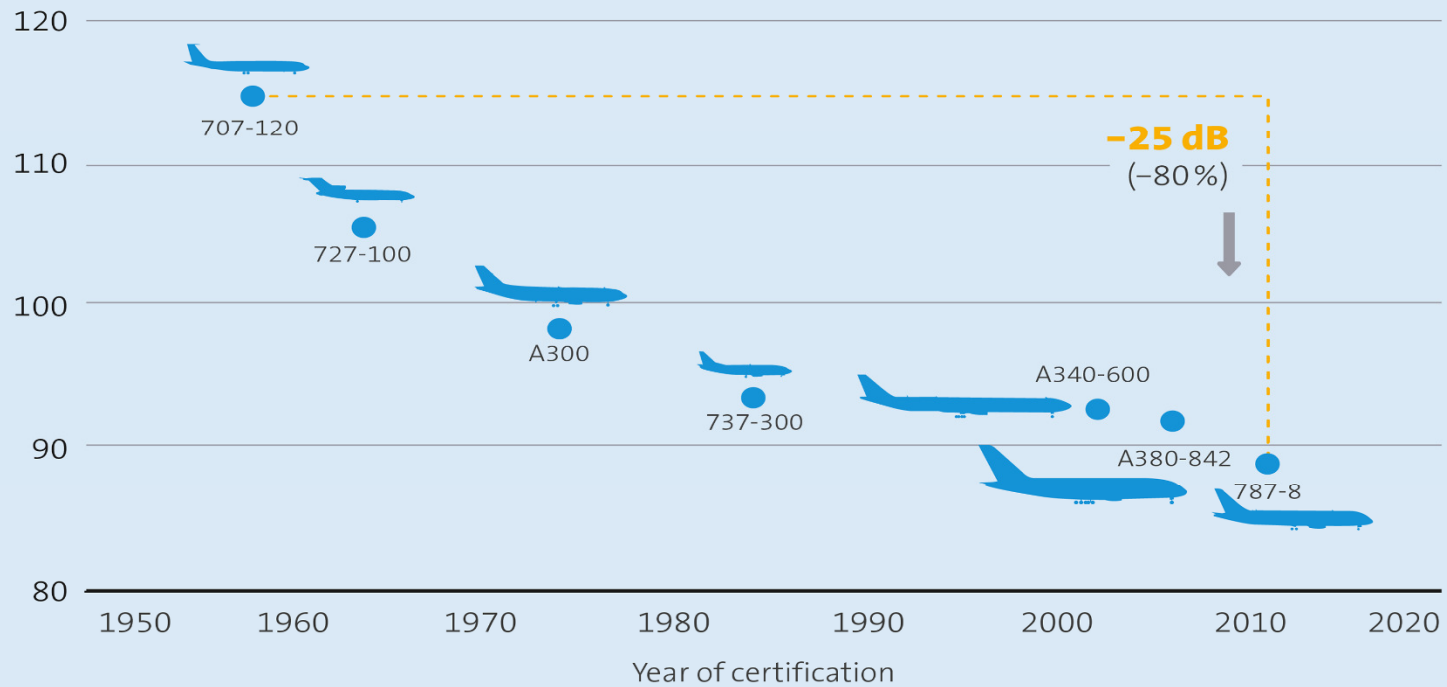
# Noise

# Noise

- Aircraft noise reduction at source:
  - - 75% over the past 50 years (minus 20 dB)
  - - 50% expected from 2000 to 2020 (minus 10 dB)
- Noise stabilized in spite of traffic growth
  - Remains, the main obstacle to airport development
  - Annoyance is the problem, not noise
  - Growing pressure, especially in Europe, to put traffic limits, ban night operations, etc.

## Development of aircraft noise emissions

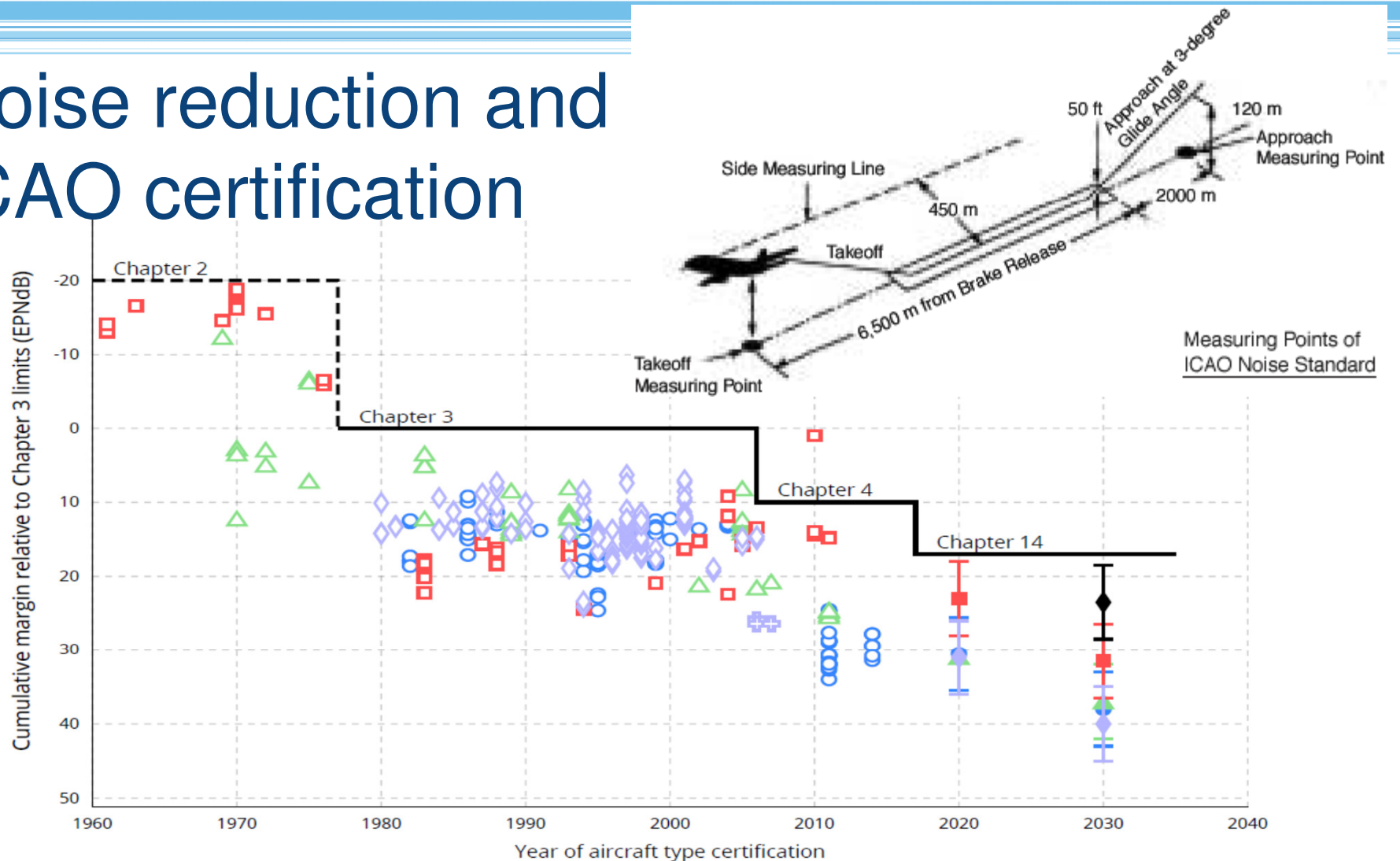
Lateral noise level standardised to 500 kN in EPNdB



\*EPNdB: Effective Perceived Noise in Decibels  
 Source: CFD-Software E+F GmbH Berlin

[www.bdl.aero](http://www.bdl.aero)

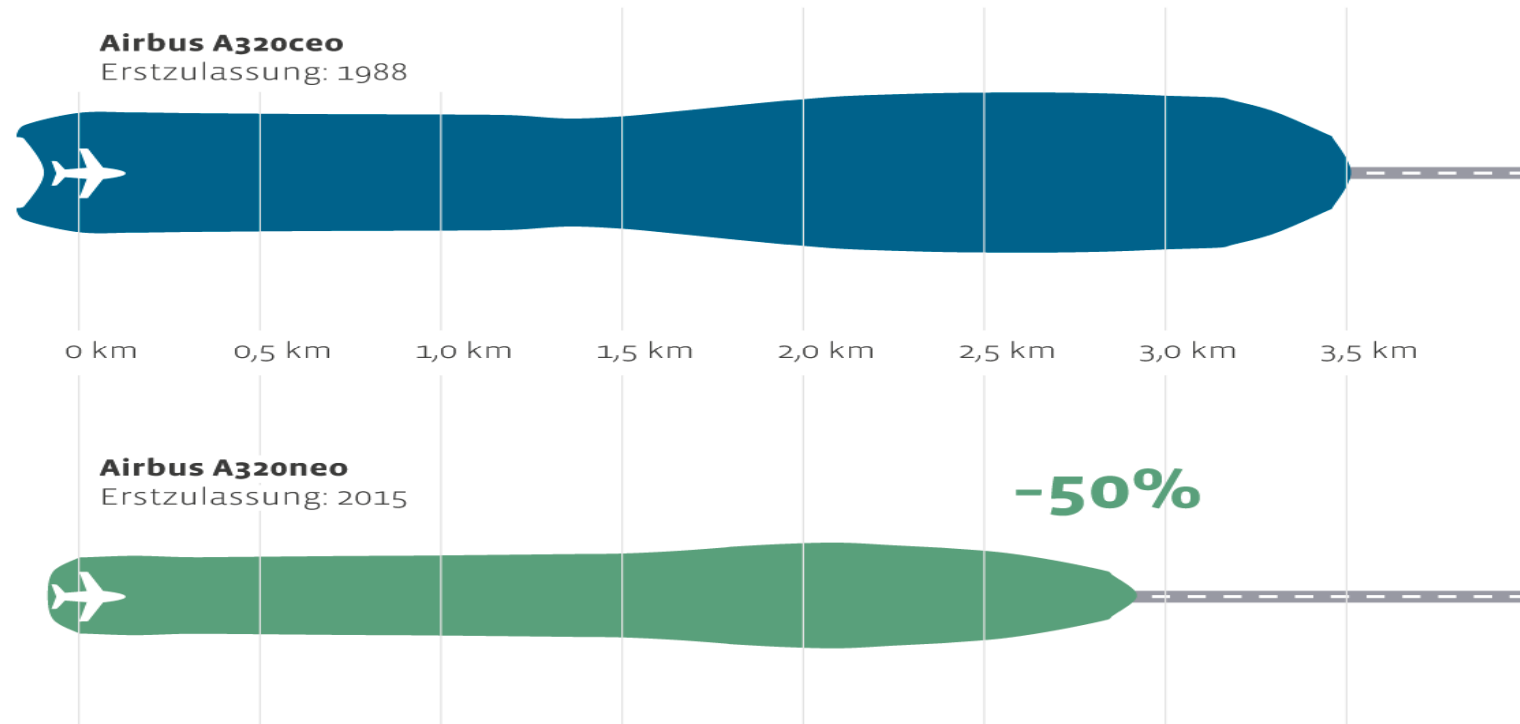
# Noise reduction and ICAO certification



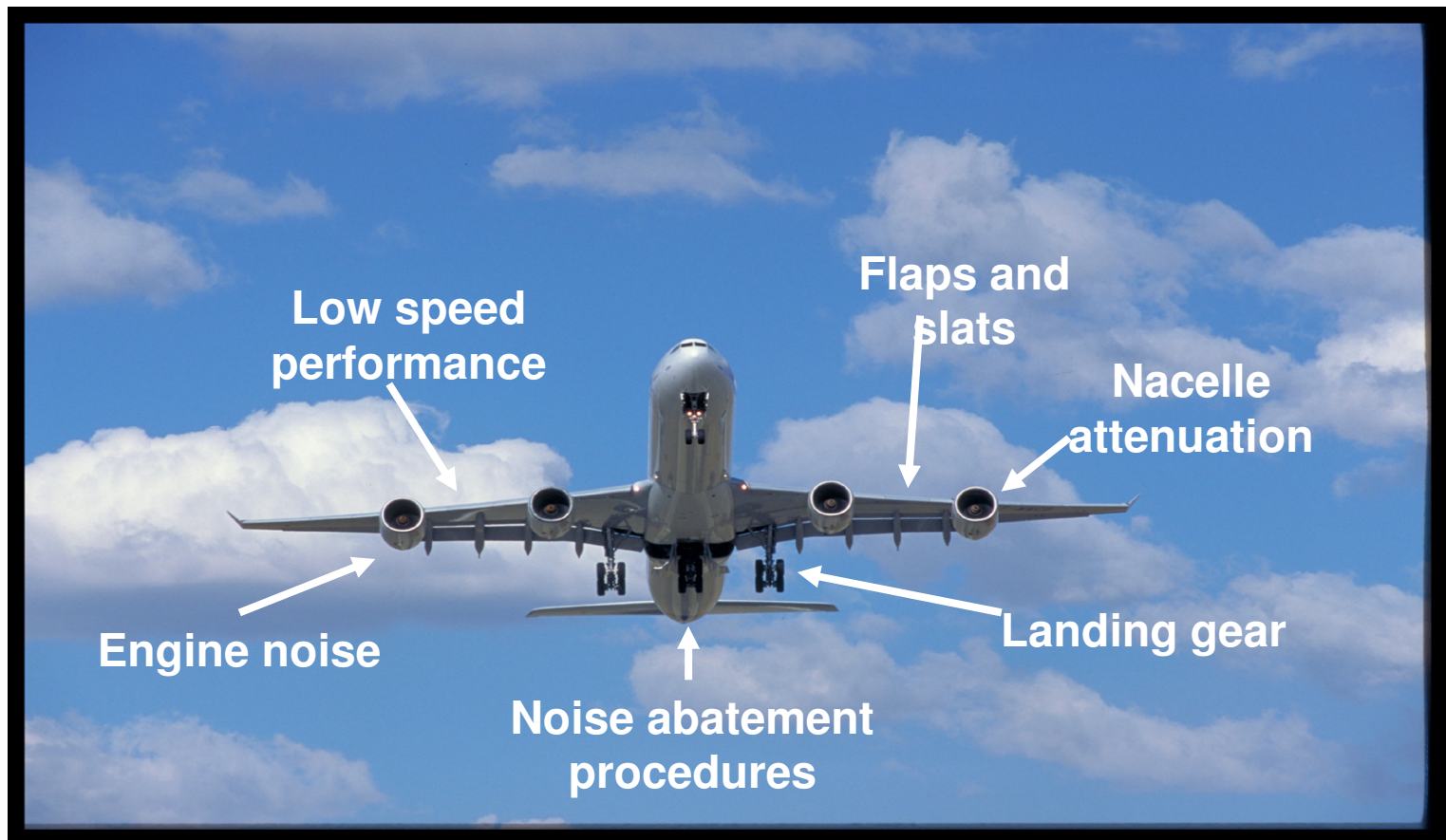
# Noise footprint reduction

## Um 50 Prozent kleinerer Lärmteppich durch Innovationen

Vergleich der Lärmkonturen von A320 Modellen bei einem Maximalschallpegel von 85 Dezibel

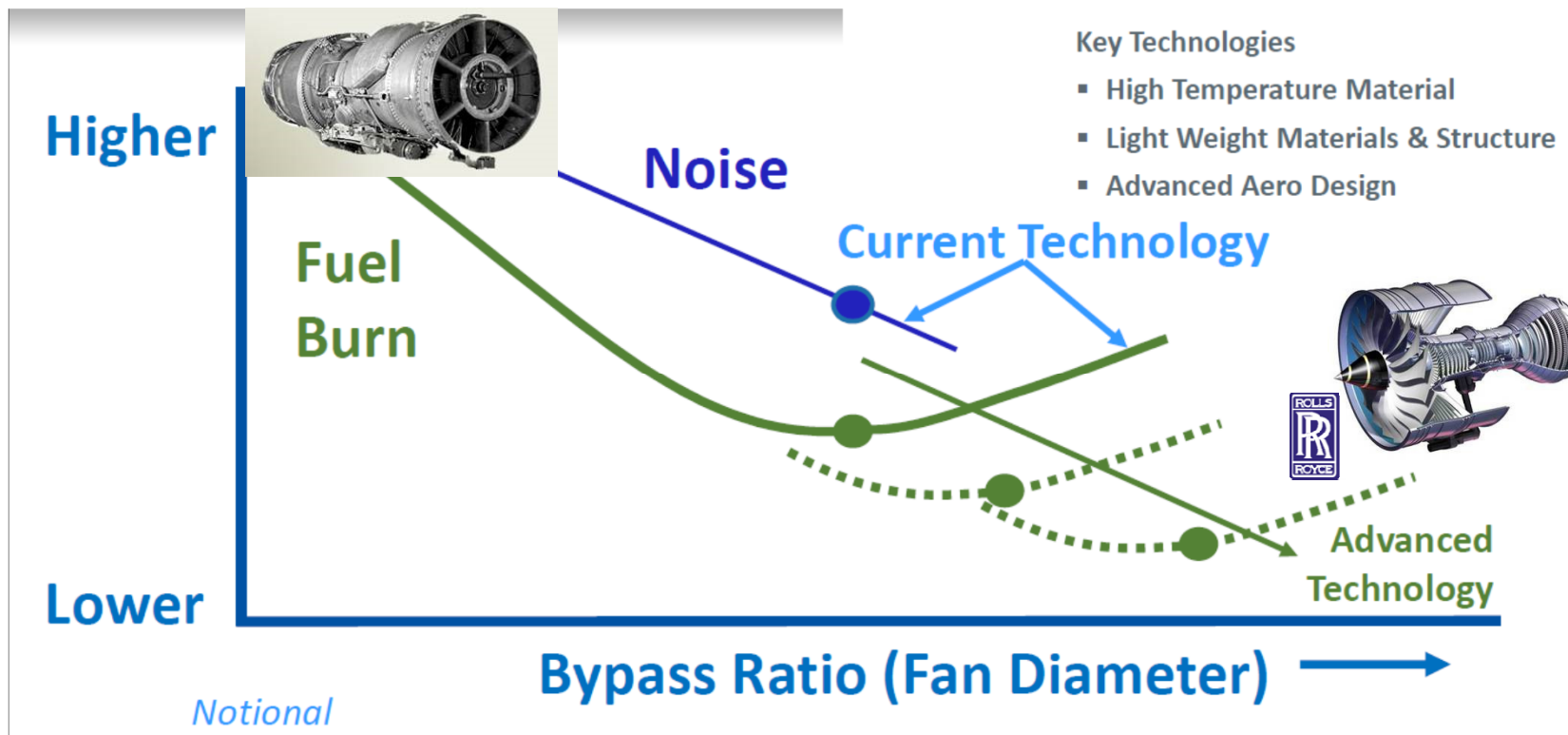


# Engine and airframe noise





# Engine bypass ratio






# Aircraft decommissioning and recycling

# Aging aircraft world fleet

- Steeply rising number of aircraft to be decommissioned
  - More than 3000 commercial aircraft over 25 years old and still in service
  - Average service time of an aircraft 25+ years
    - Significant variability – depending on business model
    - Recent trend to decommission aircraft at lower age
    - Many large airlines sell aircraft well prior to decommissioning
    - Specific target group of carriers with old aircraft (including numerous cargo airlines) – financial capacity usually low
  - 12000 aircraft expected to be decommissioned in the next 20 years

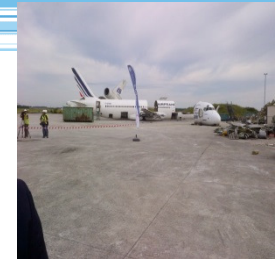
# Needs for decommissioning

Decommissioning process	Aircraft	Dismantling facility	Estimated number
Controlled  (including storage, e.g. Mojave desert)	Flyable	Fixed	> 3000
	Immobilised	Mobile only	
Uncontrolled  (at airfield edges)	Immobilised	Mobile only	Unknown

# Aircraft end-of-life issues

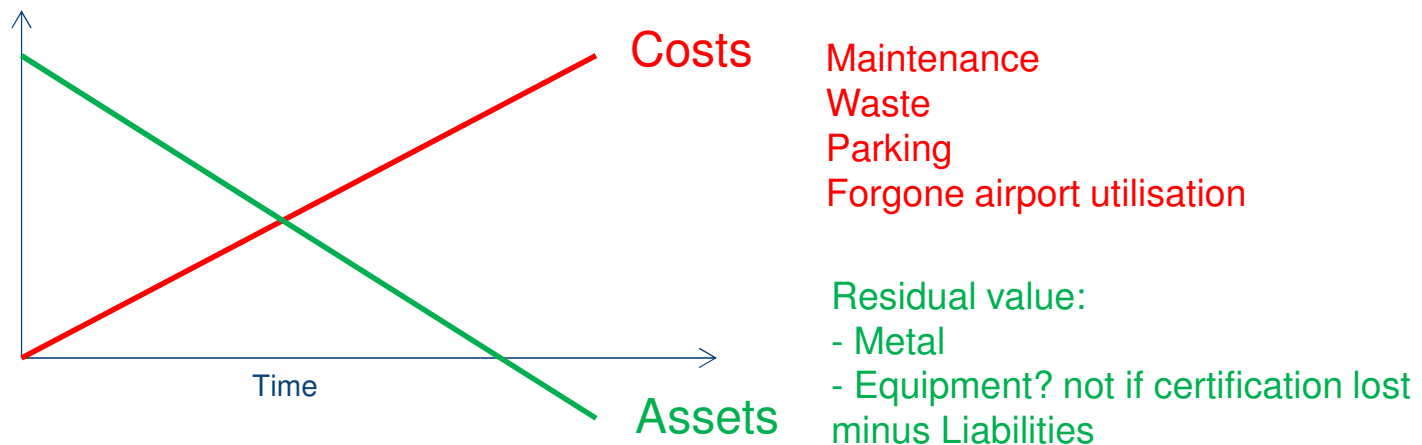
- Safety
  - Re-use of parts/equipment that have lost certification (black market)
  - Aircraft cut up in questionable safety conditions
- Environment
  - Hazardous substances (e.g. hydraulic fluids, asbestos, depleted uranium ballast)
  - Soil and water contamination
  - Waste management regulations
- Operations
  - Obstruction of airport areas
  - Airport expansion inhibited





# Economic aspects

- Airlines should be encouraged to do controlled decommissioning
  - Avoid disincentivising costs (target group is financially weak)
  - Optimised re-use / recycling should allow maximal benefit from components' residual value



# Re-use and recycling

- Many pieces of equipment (engines, avionics, ...) can be re-used
  - Represents much higher value than metal structure
  - Rigorous safety control needed → new identification systems (RFID) can help
  - Avoid equipment losing certification
- Various metallic alloys, mainly Al
  - Separated by type?
    - Higher value, but higher separation costs
- Carbon-fibre composites (e.g. tailplanes)
  - Recycling methods under development
- For the future:
  - Increased use of recyclable materials in new aircraft
  - “Design for deconstruction”



# Way forward

- Develop best practices for controlled aircraft decommissioning
  - Best use of residual value
  - Minimize environmental and safety risks
  - IATA-led industry group working on best practices manual
- Make mobile decommissioning services accessible all over the world
- Earlier decommissioning accelerates fleet renewal
  - Enhances implementation of new technologies



# Conclusions

- Environment is a major challenge for aviation
- Aviation represents 2% of man-made CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, but growing
- Aviation is the first global industry sector committing to ambitious climate goals
- ICAO supports these goals with a basket of measures
  - Global market-based measure, CO<sub>2</sub> standard etc.
- Technology goals have led to an impressive number of innovation activities
  - Sustainable aviation fuels
  - Radically new aircraft configurations and propulsion energies
- New standards drive reduction of noise and pollutant emissions
- Emerging topic: Aircraft decommissioning and recycling



**Thank you!**

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