

San Francisco Airport pledges to phase out fossil jet fuel by 2050

San Francisco International Airport (SFO) has joined aviation companies around the world backing a bold new strategy to phase out fossil jet fuel by 2050.

The strategy, drafted by the Mission Possible Partnership, aims to get the aviation industry to net-zero emissions by 2050. Fossil jet fuel could be completely replaced by sustainable aviation fuels along with new hydrogen and battery-electric propulsion aircraft by this timeline.

“Decarbonizing air transportation requires bold action from our entire industry,” said SFO Airport Director Ivar C. Satero. “Setting a goal for net-zero aviation can only be achieved through the engaged participation of airports, fuel suppliers, aircraft manufacturers and airlines. As the leading US airport for the use of sustainable aviation fuel, we are proud to be a part of the most ambitious commitment this industry has ever made for our planet.”

The Mission Possible Partnership strategy relies on a massive ramp-up of sustainable aviation fuel production and use. Signatories include major airlines including United Airlines, Delta, and KLM, and international airports such as Copenhagen and London Heathrow. SFO was the only US airport to sign on directly.

This commitment complements other industry efforts to advance the use of sustainable aviation fuel. In September 2021, SFO joined 60 aviation companies around the world in the signing of a Clean Skies for Tomorrow statement to accelerate the supply and use of sustainable aviation fuel to reach 10% of the global aviation fuel supply by 2030. Both efforts support SFO’s own goal to achieve net zero carbon operations by 2030.