

Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative® Fueling solutions for secure and sustainable aviation

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"I'm directing [the U.S. government] to work with the private sector to create advanced biofuels that can power not just fighter jets, but also trucks and commercial airliners."

President Barack Obama (March 30, 2011)

"[The] U.S. aviation industry is eager for an entirely new fuel dynamic and will be an enthusiastic purchaser."

A4A letter to President-Elect Obama (Jan. 16, 2009)

CAAFI Team Leads

Mark Rumizen (FAA) — Fuel Certification/Qualification

Jim Hileman (FAA) & Nancy Young (A4A) — Environment

Bruno Miller (Metron Inc.) — Business

Michael Lakeman (Boeing), Mike Epstein (GE) & Stephen Kramer (Pratt & Whitney) — Research and Development



The Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative* (CAAFI) seeks to enhance energy security and environmental sustainability for aviation through alternative jet fuels. As a coalition of U.S. commercial aviation interests, CAAFI is a focal point for engaging with the emerging alternative fuels industry. It enables its diverse stakeholders to build relationships, share and collect data, identify resources, and direct research, development and deployment of alternative fuels. CAAFI aims to promote the development and deployment of alternative fuels that offer equivalent levels of safety and compare favorably with petroleum-based jet fuel on cost and environmental bases, with the specific goal of enhancing the security of North American energy supply.

CAAFI is sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and three trade associations: the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA), Airlines for America (A4A) and Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA). CAAFI stakeholders include all elements of the international commercial-aviation industry, fuel suppliers, universities and U.S. government agencies.

CAAFI Approach

Aviation is well positioned to pursue alternative fuels. The industry is international in scope, has a highly networked supply chain with concentrated nodes of demand, and has a unique capacity to function in an aligned and coordinated manner.

The four CAAFI teams – Fuel Certification and Qualification, Environment, Business, and Research and Development – meet regularly to share progress, identify gaps and hurdles, determine next steps to facilitate earliest possible development and deployment of jet fuel alternatives, and to expand global engagement.



Accomplishments

- Collaboration with FAA and ASTM to establish the drop-in jet fuel approval concept, followed by approval of Fischer-Tropsch and hydroprocessed jet fuels
- → Fuel Readiness Level endorsed as a best practice by the International Civil Aviation Organization
- Feedstock Readiness Level developed in collaboration with USDA, FAA, and RITA
- Aviation-fuel-specific greenhouse gas lifecycle analyses (LCAs) completed for multiple fuels
- Co-hosting of Sustainable Alternative Fuels Cost Workshop with Dept. of Energy Biomass Program
- Formation of strategic alliance between airlines (via A4A) and the Defense Logistics Agency, creating "single market" for alternative jet fuel
- Aviation a priority for "concerted effort" for biofuel deployment by U.S. government
- "Farm to Fly" resolution between A4A, Boeing and USDA to accelerate commercial availability of sustainable aviation biofuels in the United States
- → Joint work plans developed with German aireg and Australian Initiative for Sustainable Aviation Fuels
- Awards: 2010 Air Transport World Award, 2011 Washington Airports Task Force Williams Trophy,, 2012 Washington DC Chapter of Advancing Women In Transportation Innovative Solutions Award

CAAFI Administration

Steven Csonka Executive Director

Richard L. Altman Executive Director Emeritus

Nathan L. Brown (FAA)
Strategy & Implementation Advisor

Kristin C. Lewis (RITA/Volpe), Research & Technical Advisor

CAAFI Sponsors

Aerospace Industries Assoc. (AIA)

Airlines for America (A4A)

Airports Council International)
- North America (ACI-NA

Federal Aviation Administration

