Welcome to the first Sustainable Aviation (SA) Update of 2013. SA is unique in the UK transport sector in representing a proactive coalition of airlines, airports, engine and airframe manufacturers and air traffic management, established specifically to address sustainability issues. Our agenda is entirely focused on finding collaborative ways of improving our environmental performance and ensuring sustainable growth.

This Update brings together key developments in the SA debate over the last few months. The feature in this edition highlights the key points outlined in SA’s upcoming Noise Road Map and details of the launch date. For more information contact info@sustainableaviation.co.uk or visit our website www.sustainableaviation.co.uk.

Darren Caplan, SA Comms Working Group Chair, and Chief Executive of the Airport Operators Association

SA Noise Road-Map

Since 2012 SA has been working across industry to develop a Noise Road-Map which sets out how we believe aircraft noise impact can be reduced between now and 2050. The Road Map will be launched at the House of Commons, Members’ Dining Room on 23 April at 4pm and outlines SA and the wider aviation industry’s commitment to developing ways to reduce the number of people affected by aircraft noise.

Key Points

- New aircraft typically produce half the noise of those they are replacing
- Growth in aircraft movements between now and 2050 can be achieved without increasing UK aviation noise
- SA and the wider UK aviation industry are committed to developing ways to reduce the number of people affected by aircraft noise
- Individuals’ reaction to aircraft noise is complex and requires greater understanding
- SA calls for sustained Government support in improving land use planning controls around airports, progressing research and technology and developing new noise metrics and communication tools
- The opportunities developed in this Road-Map will now be adapted into UK airport Noise Action Plans

Did you know?

In November 2012 The Noise Abatement Society recognised the Airbus A380 at their annual award ceremony presenting it with a top award for its ‘silent approach’ and use of innovative ‘quiet technology’.

Reducing Emissions

In The “Perfect Flight” live trial: A Heathrow-Edinburgh trip was calibrated to achieve minimal emissions and delay from the moment it left the gate at Heathrow to the moment it arrived at gate in Edinburgh. It showed a fuel saving of around 11%.

Small changes made in an aircraft’s journey can reduce emissions – using mains power instead of engines on the ground; running engines less during taxiing; even rates of climb, optimal flight paths and cruising altitude; steady patterns of decent could all reduce emissions from flights by 9% by 2050.

Global airline fuel efficiency has improved by 30% since 1990. New aircraft types such as the Airbus A350 XWB and the Boeing 737 MAX will improve the average fuel efficiency of airlines fleets by 17%.
In the News

Night Flights Debate: With night flight trials running at Heathrow and the current Department for Transport Consultation on the Night Flight Flying Regime; SA participated in a timely debate on these issues in February. The importance of night flights were discussed with key Government officials. Speaking on behalf of SA, Andy Jefferson our new Programme Director outlined the need for more strategic land use planning controls around airports to combat the issues surrounding aircraft noise.

Lord Taylor Review: SA has now formally responded to the DCLG consultation on the Lord Taylor Review of Planning Guidance Material. We broadly support the streamlining planning guidance material but believe much more can be done to improve guidance to local authorities in regards to permitting development of noise sensitive dwellings close to airports. You can read SA’s full response at http://www.sustainableaviation.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/SA-Lord-Taylor-Review-response-140213.pdf

A Quick Catch Up

SA had a strong presence at the Farnborough International Airshow in July. In addition to this SA was represented at each of the major party conferences in the autumn and the Airport Operators Association Annual Conference in November with dedicated stands and events. Throughout the year SA had the opportunity to meet with the Deputy Prime Minister, Transport Ministers and Shadow Transport Ministers.

SA submitted a formal response to the Government’s draft Aviation Policy Framework and gave evidence to the Energy and Climate Change Select Committee.

The year ended with our annual stakeholder reception at the Houses of Parliament. The event was attended by over 100 industry representatives and parliamentarians.

Upcoming Events

Noise Road Map Launch

SA will launch our Noise Road-Map on 23 April in the House of Commons Members’ Dining Room – invitations to be sent shortly. If you would like more information please contact Tim Alderslade; timalderslade@aoa.org.uk or 020 7799 3171

Current SA Working Groups

- SA Airline/Airport Waste Recycling Working Group
- SA Alternative Fuels Working Group
- SA Climate Change Working Group
- SA Communications Working Group
- SA Noise Working Group
- SA Operational Improvements Working Group

Industry Round Up

New Programme Director SA has a new resident expert in Dr Andy Jefferson who joins us as Programme Director. Andy has over 20 years’ experience in aviation and during his career he has worked for Air UK, KLM UK and Buzz before joining Stansted Airport where he rose to Head of Planning & Sustainability.

Boeing joins SA We are delighted to announce that Boeing UK have now become signatories to SA. Boeing is the world’s largest aerospace company and employs over 1,300 people at numerous sites across the UK.

Signatories

SA has signatories across the UK aviation and aerospace industries, airlines, air navigation service providers and manufacturers. For a full list please visit www.sustainableaviation.co.uk/about/signatories/