

Communiqué de presse

French bee, Airbus partner for the first low emission intercontinental fello'fly flight

@flyfrenchbee @Airbus @SAS #DSNA @NATS @eurocontrol #fellofly #sustainability #Decarbonisation

Orly, 09 November 2021 - The first fello'fly* intercontinental flight landed safely today at Montreal-Trudeau International Airport in Canada. The two Airbus A350s landed at 10:34 and 10:37 (local time) respectively after a flight of less than 8 hours from Toulouse to Montreal. This is the first fello'fly flight in oceanic airspace.



"Pilots from Airbus partner airlines SAS Scandinavian Airlines and Frenchbee witnessed the transatlantic flight onboard as observers. The flight was made possible by Airbus and its air traffic management partners and navigation service providers (DSNA, NATS, NAV CANADA, Eurocontrol and IAA), who together proved that wake energy retrieval flight technology leveraged in a fello'fly flight can be achieved without compromising safety. The aircraft were warmly welcomed at Montréal-Trudeau International Airport. The demonstration also shows





how fello'fly operations could significantly boost environmental performance of commercial aircraft and contribute to the aviation industry's decarbonisation targets in the immediate term.

"Actively contributing to the reduction of our environmental footprint: this is one of the major ambitions for French bee teams. Thanks to an ultra-modern fleet made up entirely of Airbus A350s, the latest aircraft to come out from the Airbus factories, our target is to continue to reduce the fuel consumption of our flights and thus contribute to the preservation of our environment. This is a crucial issue for the company, our customers and future generations," says **Muriel Assouline, General Manager of French bee**.

Inspired by biomimicry*, fello'fly is based on Wake Energy Retrieval (WER) to reduce aviation emissions. WER replicates the behaviour of birds, which fly together to reduce their energy consumption. The technique of a follower aircraft retrieving energy lost by a leader, by flying in the smooth updraft of air the wake creates, reduces fuel consumption in the range of 5-10% per trip. Airbus estimates that by implementing fello'fly for wide-body operations across the world, a reduction of up to 1.5M tons CO2 per year could be achieved.

Given the high potential to make a significant impact on emissions reduction for the aviation industry, directly contributing to the sector's sustainable growth goals, Airbus is targeting an ambitious timeline for a controlled Entry-Into-Service (EIS), which is expected before the middle of the next decade.

*Biomimicry: the design and production of materials, structures and systems inspired by nature

About Airbus

Airbus is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2019, it generated revenues of € 70 billion and employed a workforce of around 135,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners. Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as one of the world's leading space companies. In helicopters, Airbus provides the most efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions worldwide.

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About French bee

France's leading long-haul airline, French bee (formerly French blue) is a subsidiary of the Dubreuil Group. The company offers 10 flights per week to Reunion Island from Paris-Orly 4, and 3 flights per week to Tahiti, French Polynesia, and San Francisco in the United States. Since July 14, 2021, French bee also connect Paris to New York. French bee operates a fleet of 4 Airbus A350 aircrafts under the French flag. www.frenchbee.com

About Dubreuil Group

The Dubreuil Group is a family-owned holding company in Belleville sur Vie, France that operates airlines through its subsidiaries. French bee is a sister company of Air Caraïbes within the Dubreuil Group's airline division. The Dubreuil group achieved a consolidated turnover of 2.2 billion euros in 2019. The activities around Distribution account for two thirds of the turnover and Aerial for the remaining third: Automotive



(38% of turnover), Energy (8%), Public Works equipment (10%), Agricultural Machinery (10%), Heavy Goods Vehicles (1%), Hotels and Real Estate (1%), and Air Transport with Air Caraïbes and French bee (32%). www.groupedubreuil.com

