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## **INERATEC Powers Passenger Flight with Synthetic Kerosene**

**This press release is under embargo until at least 8 June 2026 at 3.00 pm, but may only be published once flight KLE 1755 has landed in Hamburg. It must not be published, distributed, or otherwise disclosed before this time.**

# KLM operates demo passenger flight with synthetic kerosene made in Germany and highlights the momentum for scaling alternative aviation fuels

Consortium of KLM, INERATEC, Hamburg Airport and MB Energy highlights progress in synthetic kerosene – and the gap to large-scale availability

**Amsterdam/ Hamburg, 8th of June 2026** - Today, KLM Cityhopper, INERATEC, Hamburg Airport and MB Energy jointly operated a passenger flight between Amsterdam and Hamburg using a blend of alternative aviation fuel ("e-SAF"). The fuel, made in Europe using European technology, was integrated into regular flight operations via existing infrastructure. This first flight on a synthetic kerosene blend in Germany is an important signal for what is technically feasible today, while also highlighting the ongoing need to scale production and increase availability.

The synthetic kerosene was produced and hydrotreated by INERATEC, then distilled and blended at ASG Analytik-Service AG with fossil kerosene provided by MB Energy, before being refuelled into the aircraft at Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam. The flight operated using a fuel blend containing 5% synthetic kerosene. Produced from hydrogen and CO<sub>2</sub>, the fuel originates from INERATEC's ERA ONE production plant, Europe's first commercial-scale Power-to-Liquid facility. Alternative synthetic kerosene has the potential to reduce lifecycle emissions by up to 90% compared to conventional kerosene.

This flight demonstrates that alternative synthetic kerosene blends are technically feasible and can be used safely in regular passenger operations today. It also shows that the entire value chain from production and blending to refueling and use in commercial aviation can be implemented under real-world conditions.

At the same time, the flight highlights the scale of the challenge ahead. While this operation marks an important step in bringing sustainable synthetic kerosene into regular passenger service, overall availability remains limited. Today, only a fraction of the volumes required under European targets for 2030 is in production. Despite a strong and growing project pipeline, many announced facilities have not yet reached final investment decision. Accelerating these projects will be essential to close the gap between ambition and supply.

Project pipelines indicate that announced production capacity could exceed future demand several times over. With strong development activity across the sector, a significant number of investment decisions is expected by 2027. Making alternative synthetic kerosene available and affordable at scale remains a major joint effort across industries, policymakers and investors.

## Call to the government: make alternative fuels a priority

KLM and INERATEC support European sustainability goals and will continue to invest in the transformation of aviation. At the same time, it is essential that policy remains realistic. Current production figures show that the 2030 sub-target for e-SAF blending in aviation is challenging. Large-scale production of e-SAF does not exist yet. The acquisition of construction and environmental permits in the Netherlands and further production sites also plays a role, and there is uncertainty regarding potential changes to ReFuelEU legislation. Therefore, despite our efforts, it remains crucial that the governments across Europe also invest to enable the acceleration and upscaling of alternative aviation fuels.

**Marjan Rintel, CEO of KLM:** “As CEO of KLM and Chair of Project SkyPower, I believe that e-SAF can make a real difference in the decarbonization of aviation. The flight to Hamburg once again shows that flying on synthetic kerosene is technically possible. But the reality is that the availability of e-SAF lags far behind the ambition. To truly make a difference, we must work together with governments, industry and partners on scaling up and improving affordability in order to accelerate the sustainability transition of aviation.”

**Christian Kunsch, Chairman of the Executive Board at Hamburg Airport:** „Sustainably produced aviation fuel will be the most important component in decarbonizing aviation in the coming years. Our infrastructure is ready for use. And we support airlines in using locally produced blends by offering incentives for sustainable aviation fuels in our fees. Today's flight using e-SAF is a milestone on the path to an aviation industry with lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through the use of alternative fuels.”

**Tim Boeltken, co-founder and CEO at INERATEC:** “We are ready to deliver. Maximilian Backhaus, our Chief Commercial Officer has been on board our e-SAF flight, in regular passenger service. This flight demonstrates that power-to-liquid fuels are safe, available, and therefore fully operational today. This proof will be just the first of many that we will see this year with our products across various industries.”

**Jonathan Perkins, Chief Executive Officer at MB Energy:** “Aviation has long been at the forefront of technological innovation. With this operation, together with KLM and Ineratec, we are showing how lower-carbon aviation fuels can be integrated into existing infrastructure and operations. At MB Energy, we are laying the foundation today – preparing routes to market for new fuels, adapting our infrastructure, and ensuring stable supply lines. When our customers are ready, we can deliver what they need, when they need.”

**INERATEC** is a leading European pioneer in the production of sustainable e-Fuels and e-Chemicals. The company develops and deploys modular, scalable Power-to-X plants that convert renewable hydrogen and CO<sub>2</sub> into synthetic fuels and chemical products, enabling the defossilization of aviation, shipping and the chemical industry.

With ERA ONE, INERATEC has brought Europe's most advanced e-Fuels production plant into operation, marking a key step toward industrial-scale availability of sustainable fuels. Its technology allows decentralized production, strengthening energy resilience while supporting climate targets.

Founded in 2016 and headquartered in Karlsruhe, Germany, INERATEC is backed by a strong group of international investors and partners. More information: [www.ineratec.com](http://www.ineratec.com)

**KLM** For 106 years, KLM has been connecting people with each other and the world. Tens of millions of customers choose to fly KLM every year, for business, leisure, visiting friends or family, to study abroad, et cetera. The 160+ destinations in the KLM network connect the Netherlands with all of the world's key economic regions and is a powerful economic engine. At the same time, we want to fly cleaner, quieter and more efficiently. Every day we take big and small steps towards achieving this ambition so that we can continue to be a great airline for our customers for centuries to come.

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines is part of the Air France–KLM Group and member of the global SkyTeam Alliance. For more information about KLM, please visit [KLM.com](http://KLM.com), KLM Newsroom, Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.

**Hamburg Airport** is the largest international commercial airport in northern Germany and the fifth largest in Germany. In 2024, around 14.83 million passengers used the airport. Around 55 airlines connect Hamburg with around 120 national and international direct destinations in around 40 countries all year round - over 1,000 destinations worldwide can be reached with just one change. With more than 60 stores, restaurants, travel agencies and leisure facilities, Hamburg Airport is like a "city within a city" and creates a diverse offering for travelers and visitors.

**The MB Energy Group**, founded in 1947 and headquartered in Hamburg, is an independent, integrated energy company with operations across Europe, the United States, and Singapore. The company engages in the import, storage, distribution, and marketing of petroleum products, LPG, chemicals, and biofuels. With decades of industry experience and forward-looking approach, MB Energy plays an active role in the global energy landscape and supports the transition to lower emissions fuels through the development and provision of future-oriented alternatives.

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