

From Vision to Action: Cape Air's Transformative Sustainability Journey



Massachusetts-based airline and IFS customer, Cape Air, is making huge strides in aviation sustainability. An IFS customer since 2014, Cape Air has successfully embarked on a transformative path towards becoming a sustainable business.

The North American airline, which operates 104 aircraft in the Northeast, Midwest, Montana and Caribbean, is responsibly tackling a low carbon aviation future.

Here, we delve into Cape Air's vision, the challenges they faced, and the strategic actions and initiatives they have implemented to achieve their sustainability goals.

Short haul, emissions-free travel

In a move that will also reduce operational costs for the airline and in turn provide a more affordable, smoother, and quieter flight experience for passengers, the company has been collaborating with E-aircraft OEM Eviation to develop, certify and place in service a 75-strong fleet of the first 9-seater commercial aircraft. The all-electric Eviation Alice commuter aircraft platform is ideal for short-haul commuter journeys. Each accommodating nine passengers and two crew, the planes have a maximum range of 440 NM (506.3 mi) and reach a maximum cruise speed of 250 knots.

While commercial air travel plays a valuable role in the global economy, it is currently also a major producer of greenhouse gas emissions. The global aviation industry produces around 2.1% of all human-induced carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. A recent sector report from the International Energy Agency (IEA) found that in 2021 this equated to around 720 Mt CO2, a level regaining nearly one-third of the fall seen in the pandemic.

Cape Air operates more than 400 regional flights a day to nearly 40 cities, mostly short haul commuter routes. Intent on reducing carbon emissions and maximizing sustainability, the airline is embracing zero-emissions travel with one of the world's first carrier fleets of all-electric aircraft.

About Cape Air

Cape Air offers convenient travel experiences with exceptional customer service. Since 1989, they have expanded their routes to include beautiful destinations worldwide. With hubs in the Northeast, Midwest, Montana, and the Caribbean, Cape Air operates a fleet of Cessna 402s, Britten-Norman Islanders, and Tecnam P2012 Travellers. An employee-owned company, Cape Air prioritizes customer satisfaction and as their mantra encourages, to MOCHA HAGoTDI. It means to "Make our Customers Happy and Have a Good Time Doing It".

Visit www.capeair.com to learn more.



50%

Since using digital advancements in IFS software to support maintenance operations and records, Cape Air has cut physical paperwork by over 50%



In the meantime, while awaiting electrification, Cape Air has embarked on a fleet renewal program, moving to newer, more fuel-efficient aircraft by replacing an aging fleet of Cessna 402s with Tecnam P2012 Travellers, with 30 now already in service.

Renewable energy generation and efficient use

Following its strategic Sustainability Initiative in 2009, Cape Air was one of the first to make use of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) arrays at its headquarters and as of 2022 is generating 625,000 kWh per year with 520 kW solar photovoltaic projects. Additionally, energy efficiency measures utilized at facilities throughout its service system have reduced heating, cooling, and lighting with carbon-based energy by 30%. Improvements include replacing high energy sodium vapor lighting with energy-efficient LED lighting; and installing lighting relay panels, occupancy sensors, photocells and override switches to provide zone control of lighting in hangars, restrooms, storage rooms and offices. The Hyannis headquarters has also undergone comprehensive energy upgrades to insulation, windows, doors, and HVAC systems, reducing energy loss and ensuring a comfortable ambient temperature inside.

In tandem, the company has also been proactive with its 1,400 employees, offering incentives to help its staff such as \$1000 towards the purchase of Electric Vehicles (EVs), on site EV charging, rebates to install PV set ups at home and free energy efficient lightbulbs for all.

Digitizing maintenance records

Aviation maintenance is traditionally paper-intensive. Since using digital advancements in IFS software to support maintenance operations and records, Cape Air has cut physical paperwork by over 50%. IFS has also enabled the company to streamline shipping to maintenance depots around the U.S. mainland and beyond, helping cut packaging, shipment emissions and costs.

Charting a greener course

By integrating environmentally and socially regenerative practices through conservation, efficiency, investments in modern technologies, purchasing decisions, and creative partnerships, Cape Air is leading the way towards a more sustainable future. From emissions and noise reduction to increased accessibility, the sustainability benefits of electric aircraft are numerous. With decreased fuel and maintenance costs, lower noise on take-off and landing, as well as reduced carbon and other emissions, high-density populations are benefiting from short-haul electric flights.

Cape Air sets a remarkable example by seamlessly blending corporate responsibility with personal accountability for sustainability. This unique approach creates a tangible impact, emphasizing the significance of these values to all stakeholders involved.

Benefits related to the use of IFS

- Reduced heating, cooling, and lighting with carbon-based energy by 30%.
- Cut packaging, shipment emissions and costs
- Reduced physical paperwork by over 50%
- Support in achieving sustainability goals



“Cape Air has never been just another airline. We are a company of firsts, and one with a deep sense of responsibility. We see tremendous opportunities to reduce the environmental impact of our operations, and to help our employees and communities do that as well.”

Dan Wolf, Cape Air Founder and Board Chairman

Find out more

Further information contact your local IFS office or visit our web site, [ifs.com](https://www.ifs.com)

