

American Airlines Fuels Low-Carbon Future as Anchor Partner to Breakthrough Energy Catalyst

\$100 million investment will support sustainable aviation fuel advancement, other pivotal solutions

NEWS RELEASE BY AMERICAN AIRLINES

FORT WORTH, Texas | September 20, 2021 08:36 AM Eastern Daylight Time

FORT WORTH, Texas, September 20, 2021 /3BL Media/ - American Airlines announced today that it has become an anchor partner to Breakthrough Energy Catalyst, investing \$100 million in a groundbreaking collaborative effort to accelerate the clean energy technologies necessary for achieving a net zero economy by 2050.

In becoming one of Breakthrough Energy Catalyst's first anchor partners, American is backing up its ambitious climate commitments with concrete action to accelerate the development of pivotal emissions-reduction solutions like sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

"We see immense promise in the mission of Breakthrough Energy Catalyst, and our investment is a vote of confidence in the difference-making potential of this unique and collaborative approach," said Doug Parker, Chairman and CEO of American. "We have an ambitious vision of a low-carbon future for our airline and a plan to match, but we know our own efforts can only get us so far. By working in partnership with Catalyst, we're helping accelerate and scale our industry's nascent solutions, like sustainable aviation fuel, along with other technologies that will be necessary to reduce emissions from aviation and across the economy."

Breakthrough Energy Catalyst is a first-of-its-kind model that brings together companies, governments, and private philanthropy to accelerate the adoption of critical, next generation clean technologies. Catalyst and its partners will work together to finance, produce and buy the new solutions that will underpin a zero-carbon economy but are currently more expensive than their existing fossil-fuel emitting counterparts. The difference between these costs is what is now referred to as the "Green Premium."

"Avoiding a climate disaster will require a new industrial revolution. We need to make the technologies and products that don't cause emissions as cheap as those that do, so the whole world can afford to put them to use," said Bill Gates, Founder of Breakthrough Energy. "Catalyst will focus on supporting technologies that are vital to the world reaching net-zero emissions but are currently too expensive to be adopted at scale. By coordinating investments and directing them toward these critical technologies, we can

reduce their Green Premiums and help them get to market faster, so we can all reach our climate goals. American Airlines has demonstrated both ambition and action when it comes to combating climate change, and we applaud the leadership role they're taking in joining Catalyst as an anchor partner."

Catalyst will start by funding projects across four technologies: sustainable aviation fuel, green hydrogen, direct air capture and long-duration energy storage.

With a goal to reach net zero by 2050 and a **commitment** to set a science-based intermediate target, American's plan to reduce its emissions relies in large part on using low-carbon fuel — namely SAF — in increasing volumes over time. American's partnership with Catalyst will augment the airline's ongoing efforts to advance SAF and bring the market to scale. The airline has been taking delivery of SAF from Neste for more than a year and has committed to using 9 million gallons in total through 2023. Additionally, American has agreed to terms to purchase up to 10 million gallons of carbon neutral SAF produced by Prometheus Fuels.

American's path to net zero also hinges on maximizing the efficiency of its aircraft and its operation, which is why the airline has invested \$24 billion in modernizing its fleet with 600 new and more fuel-efficient aircraft while retiring a similar number of less-efficient planes.

Because reducing the impact of air travel on the planet is inextricably linked with the actions of many other entities, fostering impactful collaboration — within the industry, across the private sector and with policymakers — is fundamental to American's sustainability strategy. The airline's anchor partnership with Catalyst exemplifies the type of cooperation necessary to decarbonize the industry and forestall the most serious effects of climate change.

More information about American's approach to sustainability is available at aa.com/sustainability.

About Breakthrough Energy Founded by Bill Gates in 2015, Breakthrough Energy is dedicated to helping humanity avoid a climate disaster. Through investment vehicles, philanthropic programs, policy advocacy, and other activities, Breakthrough Energy is committed to scaling the technologies the world needs to reach net-zero emissions by 2050. Visit breakthroughenergy.org for more information and connect with Breakthrough Energy on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, and **LinkedIn**.

About American Airlines Group American's purpose is to care for people on life's journey. Shares of American Airlines Group Inc. trade on Nasdaq under the ticker symbol AAL and the company's stock is included in the S&P 500. Learn more about what's

happening at American by visiting news.aa.com and connect with American on Twitter [@AmericanAir](https://twitter.com/AmericanAir) and at Facebook.com/AmericanAirlines.

View additional multimedia and more ESG storytelling from American Airlines on 3blmedia.com

Tags

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS & EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT