

Mango continues to cut carbon emissions

Mango, one of South Africa's low-cost airlines, is continuing to pursue its offset targets, and is aiming to reduce its carbon emissions by up to 1.7 million tonnes by 2014.



By mid-2014 Mango aims to have replaced seating across its entire fleet with lighter and fuel efficient seats with a weight saving of 820kg per aircraft. The seat replacement programme forms part of the 'Whole of Business' programme designed to reduce environmental impact. Since 2008 Mango has already reduced weight by more than 270kg per aircraft.

Good business through green responsibility

"Weight savings result in substantial fuel burn savings," says Mango CEO Nico Bezuidenhout, who adds that the seat investment will deliver a dual benefit. "Less fuel burn means reduced input cost thus positively impacting travellers and fare costs. Simultaneously a saving of 1.7 million tonnes on emissions is a significant step toward reducing the impact that aviation has on the environment." Globally aviation contributes approximately two percent to overall emissions. "This initiative forms part of a greater campaign to manage the environmental impact of our operations," says Bezuidenhout.

Mango already carries 30% less unnecessary water on board (short sectors), and has removed unused ovens, water boilers and other unused weighty equipment. During maintenance, particular attention is given to aerodynamic smoothness to reduce drag in order to burn less fuel and emit fewer gases. "Operationally we have made huge strides in reducing fuel burn and therefore our emissions. The double benefit of fuel saving shows that being environmentally responsible can mean good business," says Bezuidenhout.

Toward the end of the third quarter of 2013, Mango aims to have completed its carbon audit and along with it, will launch a voluntary emission offset programme for its guests. "Offsetting one's travel on Mango may be far less than other carriers when monetised given the efficiency measures already in place," says Bezuidenhout. "Funds will be directed toward accredited offset projects in line with global standards." Details of the offset projects will become available upon the implementation of voluntary offsets.

The airline will further offset its emissions through participation in SAA Group initiatives as well as its own projects.

For more information, go to www.flymango.com.

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