



AMERICAN AIRLINES MAKES EQUITY INVESTMENT IN UNIVERSAL HYDROGEN

News / Airlines



American Airlines announced strategic equity investment in Universal Hydrogen, a company building a green hydrogen distribution and logistics network for aviation. The investment supports American's [science based targets to reduce greenhouse gas \(GHG\) emissions by 2035](#), and ultimately its commitment to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2050. This investment makes American the first U.S. airline to make two direct investments focused on the development of both [hydrogen-electric propulsion technology](#) and the future of hydrogen distribution logistics.

Universal Hydrogen's fuel distribution network uses modular hydrogen capsules that are handled like cargo, eliminating the need for new fueling infrastructure at airports and speeding up fuel loading operations. Universal Hydrogen anticipates starting hydrogen deliveries for regional aircraft in 2025, with plans to expand its services to larger, single aisle aircraft — first for auxiliary power in the late-2020s and then as a primary fuel by the mid-2030s. Because these segments represent two-thirds of aviation emissions — and with green hydrogen being a true zero-carbon

fuel — these advances put aviation on a path to meet Paris Agreement emissions targets.

American Airlines Chief Financial Officer Derek Kerr commented: “This technology has the potential to be a game-changer on the industry’s path to zero-emission flight. As the world’s largest airline, American has a responsibility to exercise leadership in making aviation sustainable. Our investment in Universal Hydrogen represents a vote of confidence for green hydrogen as a key element of a sustainable future for our industry.”

American joins Airbus Ventures, GE Aviation and Toyota Ventures, as well as several major hydrogen producers and aircraft lessors, as strategic investors in Universal Hydrogen.

Paul Eremenko, co-founder and CEO of Universal Hydrogen, said: “Together with our investors, we are putting together the end-to-end value chain to make hydrogen aviation a near-term commercial reality. This move by American is a strong signal that customers want a true zero-emissions solution for passenger aviation and are willing to back tangible, pragmatic steps to get there quickly.”

10 OCTOBER 2022

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