



## Clean Aviation Selects ATR to Lead the Future of Low-Emission Regional Flight

**ATR will be the first to fly a hybrid-electric regional aircraft by 2030, marking a major milestone in sustainable aviation**

**Toulouse, 9 September 2025** – ATR, the world's leading manufacturer of regional aircraft, is proud to announce its selection by the European Union's Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking (Clean Aviation) to lead two groundbreaking initiatives set to redefine the future of low-emission regional aviation.

As part of Clean Aviation's Ultra-Efficient Regional Aircraft (UERA) thrust, ATR will spearhead two ambitious development projects aimed at demonstrating the integration of hybrid-electric propulsion, advanced propeller systems and electrified aircraft systems on a regional aircraft.

By 2030, ATR will achieve a world first: flying a hybrid-electric regional aircraft using an ATR 72-600 test bed. This breakthrough will be made possible through several projects, two of which will be led by ATR, with the support of the European Union, and in collaboration with international industry and research organisations, including Safran and RTX businesses Collins Aerospace and Pratt & Whitney Canada.

ATR's flagship project, HERACLES, (*Hybrid-Electric Regional Aircraft Concept for Low EmissionS*), will define an ultra-efficient regional aircraft concept integrating hybrid-electric propulsion, high-performance batteries, and a thermal engine compatible with 100% Sustainable Aviation Fuel. These technologies will be flight-tested through DEMETRA (*Demonstrator of an Electrified Modern Efficient Transport Regional Aircraft*), using an ATR 72-600 flying test bed.

"We are honoured to lead this transformative effort with the support of Clean Aviation," said **Nathalie Tarnaud Laude, Chief Executive Officer at ATR**. "This is more than a technological demonstration, it's a bold commitment to the future of regional aviation. By flying the world's first hybrid-electric regional aircraft by 2030, we aim to further demonstrate that sustainability and connectivity can go hand in hand. These projects build on our unmatched legacy of fuel efficiency and position ATR at the forefront of the next generation of aviation."

These initiatives support Clean Aviation's strategic goal of achieving up to 30% improved fuel efficiency and significantly reduced carbon emissions for next-generation regional aircraft, targeting an entry into service by 2035. They align with the European Union's climate ambitions, including the Fit for 55 package and the European Green Deal, and support the decarbonisation ambitions of the aviation industry.

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### ABOUT CLEAN AVIATION

The Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking is the European Union's leading research and innovation programme for transforming aviation towards a sustainable and climate-neutral future. It is a successful European public-private partnership between the European Commission through [Horizon Europe](#), the EU research and innovation programme, and the European aeronautics industry. It has a budget of €4.1 billion divided into €1.7 billion in EU funding and no less than €2.4 billion in private funding. The programme's disruptive clean aviation technologies will help reduce the emission footprint of short-medium range and regional aircraft by no less than 30% compared to 2020 state-of-the-art aircraft. Clean Aviation builds on the knowledge and expertise of the Clean Sky programmes (2008-2024).

### ABOUT ATR

ATR is the world number one regional aircraft manufacturer with its ATR 42 and 72, the best-selling aircraft in the below 90-seat market segment. The unifying vision of the company is to accelerate sustainable connections for people, communities and businesses, no matter how remote. Flown by some 200 airlines in over 100 countries, ATR aircraft open 120 new routes every year on average, facilitating the development of territories and enabling access to crucial services like healthcare and education. Thanks to ATR's focus on continuous innovation and the intrinsic efficiency of the turboprop technology, ATR aircraft are the most advanced, versatile, cost-effective and lowest-emission regional aircraft on the market, emitting 45% less CO2 than similar-size regional jets. In January 2022, we flew the first ever commercial aircraft using 100% SAF in both engines. ATR is a joint-venture between Airbus and Leonardo. Visit us on [www.atr-aircraft.com](http://www.atr-aircraft.com) for more information.

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