

New plan to reduce planes' CO2 emissions

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(AP) -- Aviation groups in Europe announced a plan Tuesday to change the way commercial planes land in order to reduce their global-warming emissions of carbon dioxide.

By 2013 some 100 European airports will allow planes to descend all the way from cruising altitude to the runway in one smooth glide, saving up to 450 kilograms (992 pounds) of CO2 per landing, the International Air Transport Association said.

In all, [airlines](#) are hoping to save 500,000 metric tons (515 US tons) of carbon gas this way each year, said IATA's head of infrastructure Guenther Matschnigg.

The measure - the first continentwide plan of its kind - is part of the airline industry's effort to combat [climate change](#), IATA said.

It also comes amid concerns that the current [global economic crisis](#) could keep governments and businesses from transforming their carbon-dependent economies.

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