The Importance of Sustainable Aviation Fuels, An Airline's Perspective?

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Commercial aviation accounts for less than two percent of the carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in the United States and only two percent globally. While that percentage may be low, aviation emissions are highly visible and are projected to increase with industry growth. Alaska Airlines, through its industry group Airlines for America, has joined the International Aviation Transportation Association (IATA) in adopting aggressive targets to reduce greenhouse (GHG) emissions using a global, sectoral approach. This approach includes aircraft and engine technology improvements, transition to satellite-based air traffic management system and development of a commercially-viable and sustainable alternative aviation fuel industry. This presentation will discuss the industry and Alaska Airlines' goals, accomplishments and challenges in meeting these targets and Alaska Airlines' support in developing regional sustainable aviation fuel industries.