



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Overcoming Challenges In LCA Of New Technologies: An Overview Of Current Activities To Future Integration In Airbus Defence And Space

**Airbus Defence and Space** is embedding sustainability into its core strategy by adopting **Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)** as a key tool for decarbonizing aviation. Through initiatives like the Clean Aviation program and the **HERA project**, Airbus is evaluating the environmental impact of emerging technologies for future hybrid-electric aircraft. These efforts aim not only to integrate innovative solutions into Airbus platforms but also to quantify their potential for reducing carbon emissions, supporting the broader goals of the European Green Deal and climate neutrality by 2050.

The paper outlines major challenges in applying LCA to low-TRL technologies, including defining functional units, collecting and structuring data, and addressing scalability issues. It emphasizes the importance of standardized frameworks (ISO 14040/44, GHG Protocol) and collaborative input from partners to ensure consistency and credibility. By overcoming these barriers, Airbus is paving the way for a robust, common LCA methodology that will streamline future assessments and accelerate the integration of sustainable technologies into military and civil aviation platforms.

**Deborah Neumann de la Cruz**, Environmental Officer (Airbus), has delivered this study and presented it to the Research Specialists' Meeting for LCA, in the frame of the 55th AVT Panel Business Week, May 19-23, 2025 at Washington D.C., USA. She received a "Best Presentation Award Certificate" for the presentation of this study.

[!\[\]\(003082e50e3009141f59bd5df831749f\_img.jpg\) Read the NATO announcement here.](#)

## About HERA

HERA aims to identify and trade off the concept of a regional aircraft, serving the need for sustainability. The high-level goals are, first, to develop the required aircraft-level technologies and, second, to integrate the required enablers to meet the 50% less technology-based greenhouse gas emissions.

*Designing the third era of Aviation*

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