



The Race to 2035: Hybrid-Electric & SAF vs. Hydrogen Aviation

Clean Aviation Projects Unite in High-Level Webinar Debate on the Future of Sustainable Flight

A Timely Debate for Aviation's Decisive Decade

By 2035, aviation is expected to take significant steps toward reducing emissions while maintaining connectivity and competitiveness. Yet major questions remain regarding which technological solutions can scale fastest, achieve certification, and provide the most effective route to market.

The webinar will explore two leading pathways:

Hybrid-Electric Aviation & Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF)

Represented by the HERA and HERFUSE projects, this approach focuses on regional aviation concepts that combine hybrid-electric architectures with SAF, leveraging existing infrastructure while advancing aircraft efficiency and emissions reduction.

Hydrogen Aviation

Represented by the H2ELIOS and CAVENDISH projects, this pathway investigates liquid hydrogen storage, aircraft integration, and hydrogen combustion technologies that could revolutionise medium-haul air transport and significantly reduce aviation's environmental footprint.

What Participants will Learn

During the 60-minute debate, project experts will present evidence and perspectives on:

- Technology readiness and certification challenges
- Infrastructure and airport adaptation requirements
- Energy efficiency and operational realities
- Regional versus medium-haul mission requirements
- Hydrogen integration and combustion technologies
- The role of SAF in aviation decarbonisation
- Future investment priorities for industry and policymakers
- Opportunities for collaboration across different technology pathways

The discussion will also include a live audience Q&A session, allowing the attendees to engage with leading European researchers and innovators directly.

More Than a Competition

While the webinar will explore the advantages and limitations of competing technological approaches, its ultimate objective is to foster dialogue across the aviation innovation ecosystem. The discussion will demonstrate that the future of sustainable aviation is unlikely to be defined by a single solution. Instead, hybrid-electric systems, SAF, hydrogen storage technologies, and hydrogen combustion concepts may all contribute to achieving Europe's long-term aviation sustainability goal.

Event Details

Title: The Race to 2035: Hybrid-Electric & SAF vs Hydrogen Aviation

Date: 2 October 2026

Time: 15:00–16:00 CET

Format: Online Webinar Debate

Projects: HERA (Giuseppe Piscopo & Massimiliano Di Giulio), HERFUSE (Fabrizio Leone), H2ELIOS (Emma C. Lope), CAVENDISH (Andreas Frenzel & Hervé Morvan)

Moderator: Antonello Marino (Team Leader - Project Management Unit, Clean-Aviation JU)

Programme: Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking

 **Register Now!**

Participation is free of charge.

For further information, please contact the media creator, **Vassiliki Vgenopoulou** (vassiliki.vgenopoulou@easn.net), Dissemination & Communication manager of the HERA project.



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

Learn more at  project-hera.eu

Connect with us ! 


CLEAN AVIATION

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