

Zemo Partnership NEWS

30 March, 2026

Zemo Partnership launches RFAS Aviation to strengthen the verification of Sustainable Aviation Fuel traceability in the UK

Zemo Partnership today announces the launch of RFAS Aviation, a new voluntary assurance scheme designed to provide independent verification of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) across the UK supply chain.

The scheme responds to a critical industry need for a harmonised approach to verifying SAF traceability in the downstream fuel supply chain. The absence of a consistent mechanism has limited the ability of airline operators to demonstrate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions under the UK Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), and for fuel suppliers to robustly evidence SAF sustainability credentials to customers.

RFAS Aviation builds on the established Renewable Fuels Assurance Scheme (RFAS), widely used in the road transport sector, extending its proven audit and assurance framework into the aviation market and aligning with UK ETS sustainability and chain-of-custody requirements.

The scheme introduces a robust, independent mechanism for verifying the traceability of SAF from the point of blending with conventional aviation fuel (eg Jet A-1), across the UK distribution network to the airport. Central to this is the introduction of a standardised SAF Declaration, developed by Zemo Partnership, enabling fuel suppliers to provide verified SAF production pathway, feedstock and lifecycle GHG emissions data.

This SAF Declaration serves as a trusted, auditable record that can be used by airline operators to support emissions reduction claims under the UK ETS, while also enhancing transparency and confidence across the aviation fuel supply chain.

The introduction of RFAS Aviation comes as the UK moves to scale SAF supply

through a national mandate, increasing the importance of clear, consistent, and independently verified sustainability reporting across the fuel supply chain.

Gloria Esposito, Director of Sustainable Business, Zemo Partnership, said:
“RFAS Aviation provides the independent verification needed to give airlines, suppliers and regulators confidence in the traceability and sustainability of SAF.

“Our close collaboration with the Environment Agency has been instrumental in ensuring SAF Declarations align with UK ETS requirements and support credible emission reduction claims.

“We are delighted to approve Valero Energy Limited as the first SAF supplier under RFAS Aviation.”

RFAS Aviation is open to companies supplying SAF to the UK aviation sector and is designed to:

- Provide independent verification of SAF traceability and sustainability claims
- Support compliance with UK ETS emissions reporting requirements
- Enable consistent and credible communication of SAF attributes to customers
- Strengthen transparency as SAF volumes increase in the UK fuel mix

As SAF deployment accelerates, RFAS Aviation provides a critical framework to ensure that sustainability claims are credible, consistent, and independently verified thereby supporting the UK aviation sector’s transition to net zero.

The scheme also prevents cross-market attribution to aviation claims by ensuring kerosene supplied for other uses (eg heating) is excluded.

Fuel suppliers with an interest in finding out more about the scheme should contact Zemo Partnership’s fuels team. (rfas@zemo.org.uk).

[VISIT RFAS AVIATION WEBSITE CLICK HERE.](#)

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ABOUT ZEMO PARTNERSHIP

Zemo Partnership (www.zemo.org.uk), formerly Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership, is a not-for-profit, public-private partnership working to accelerate a sustainable shift to low carbon fuels and zero emission vehicles. Zemo convenes the widest network of stakeholders to help advise on decarbonisation policy initiatives,

identify key barriers and take initiatives to resolve them. Zemo's diverse membership includes representatives of automotive and fuel supply chains, vehicle users, academics, environment groups and others.

Zemo Partnership's original Renewable Fuels Assurance Scheme (RFAS) has now approved 58 companies across the UK and Europe. It provides credible, third-party assurance of greenhouse gas emissions savings and feedstock traceability for renewable fuel used in commercial vehicle fleets and non-road mobile machinery (NRMM).