# **Sustainable Aviation Fuel Progress Overview**



Steve Csonka Executive Director, CAAFI



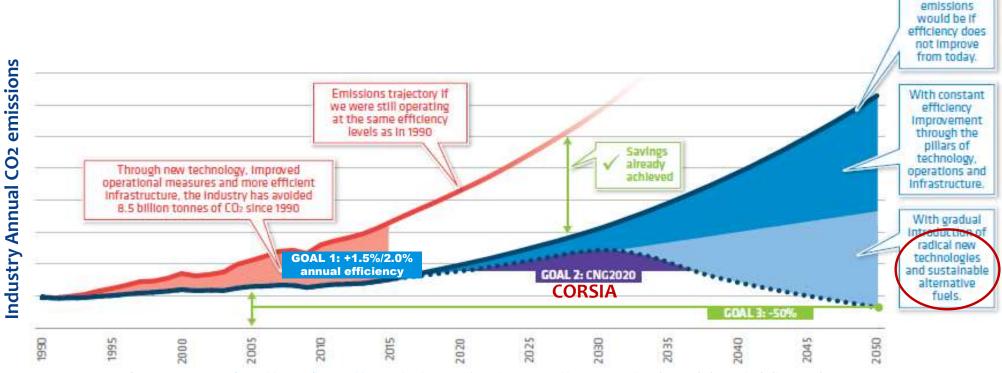
First flight from continuous commercial production of SAF, 10Mar'16 Fuel from World Energy - Paramount (HEFA-SPK 30/70 Blend).



27Feb'21

Discover more about CAAFI at www.caafi.org

### **Commercial Aviation commitments on CO2 reductions**



27 February 2021 Courtesy of ATAG: www.atag.org/our-publications/latest-publications.html; Beginner's Guide to Sustainable Aviation Fuel; Business Aviation made similar commitments

COMMERCIAL AVIATION ALTERNATIVE FUELS INITIATIVE

Where

# Majority of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions come from medium- and long-range flights, and larger aircraft

#### Global CO2 emissions from aviation – 2018, in % of total CO2 emitted

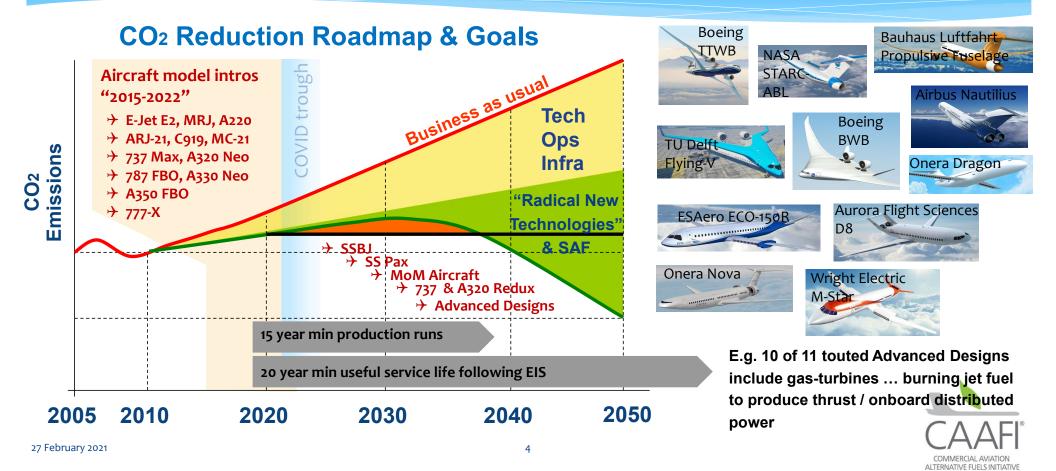
		Flight	: Range C	ategory	(km)		Total Share	Global
Aircraft Type	0-500	501- 1000	1001- 2000	2001- 3000	3001- 4500	>4500	CO2 Emissions	Fleet
Commuter <19	<1%						<1%	4%
Regional 20-80	1.2%	1.2%	0.8%	0.1%			3%	13%
Short Range 81-165	1.6%	5.8%	10.1%	4.0%	2.0%		24%	53%
Med. Range 166-250	1.1%	4.9%	13.1%	8.4%	6.9%	8.5%	43%	18%
Long Range >250	0.1%	0.5%	1.6%	1.6%	1.9%	24.2%	30%	12%
Total	~4.5%	~12.4%	~25.6%	~14.1%	~10.7%	~32.7%		

27 February 2021

CAAFI<sup>®</sup> COMMERCIAL AVIATION ALTERNATIVE FUELS INITIATIVE

Source: World Economic Forum – Mission Possible Platform, DiioMi

### Jet fuel usage will continue ... Through several decades, with <u>tomorrow's</u> technology



### Key drivers that led to SAF strategy in 2008 Issues which must be addressed by energy switching concepts

#### Significant benefits, few challenges beyond comparative cost of the production itself

- \* No equipment changes, no operational changes
  - \* Aircraft certification basis remains
- \* No distribution infrastructure changes
  - \* Only primary challenge is blending terminals, of comparative low cost versus other needs
- \* No airport energy / fueling infrastructure changes
  - \* Continued use of most efficient architecture fuel farm common storage, hydrant system delivery
- \* No impact to surety of supply
  - \* Distributed production and supply could actually improve energy security
- \* No limitation to volume of potential supply (reaffirmed by multiple source studies)
  - \* Sufficient & multiple sustainable feedstock sources and conversion methodologies
- \* No limitation on potential producers
  - \* From entrepreneurs, to existing refinery integration, to full refinery retrofit
- \* No changes to execution of aviation paradigm

Enables safe, effective, efficient system, leveraging 70 years of experience/learning
 27 February 2021
 5



# Additional drivers for consideration of SAF

#### \* Enables the carbon reduction to start TODAY

- \* 50-70% net GHG LCA available already, pursuits for achieving and surpassing 100% ongoing
- \* Brings along other benefits besides key benefits of jobs and rural development
  - \* Reductions to criteria pollutants (SOx, PM, CO, ice nucleation), reduction of supply chain GHGs
  - Environmental services of the supply chain (erosion, water, nutrients, habitat, C-sequestration)
- \* Promise of additional future SAF production approaches
  - \* Oleaginous yeasts, algae (unlimited feedstock and CO2 consumption), P-t-L, ...
- \* Allows advanced technology to enter the market at its own, justified pace
  - \* After the new tech can substantiate OpCost improvements that justify fleet introduction
    - ... After the new tech achieves adequate TRL
      - ... After the certification basis is established
        - ... After a 5-8 year design and certification process
  - \* After challenges for different energy supply infrastructure have been addressed



### SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel) a.k.a. aviation biofuel, biojet, alternative aviation fuel

Aviation Fuel: Maintains the certification basis of today's aircraft and jet (gas turbine) engines by delivering the properties of ASTM D1655 – Aviation Turbine Fuel – enables drop-in approach – no changes to infrastructure or equipment, obviating incremental billions of dollars of investment

- Sustainable: Doing so while taking Social, Economic, and Environmental progress into account, especially addressing GHG reduction
- How: Creating synthetic jet fuel with biochemical and thermochemical processes by starting with a different set of carbon molecules than petroleum ... a synthetic comprised of molecules essentially identical to petroleum-based jet (in whole or in part)

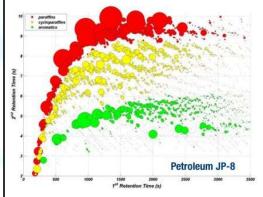


### Okay, then let's start with – What is jet fuel? Definition around which aviation enterprise is optimized / certified

#### A middle distillate refinery stream is used for jet fuel

- \* Comprised of mixtures of aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons with carbon numbers predominantly in the range of C7-C17, which is typically a mixture of:
  - ~25% / 11% normal / branched paraffins
  - ~30% / 12% / 1% mono- / di- / tri-cycloparraffins
  - ~16 / 5% mono- / di-nuclear aromatics
     (25% max aromatics air quality concern)





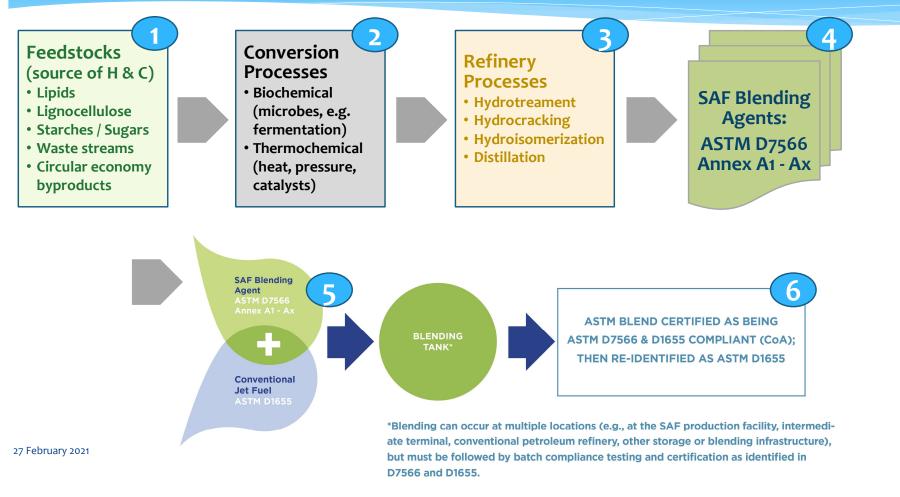
\* A Gaussian distribution of hydrocarbons, represented as C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>23</sub>

#### There is no standard "formula" for jet fuel

 Composition that delivers the physical properties and performance-based requirements / characteristics of ASTM D1655 specification

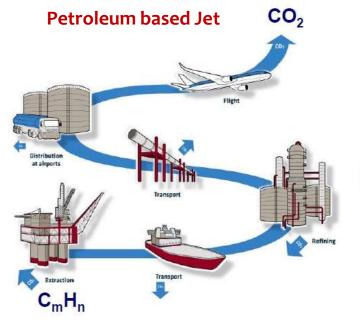


### How is SAF made?





# Achieving net Lifecycle GHG Reductions with SAF



Continuing to pull additional carbon

from the ground and releasing it

into the atmosphere as CO,

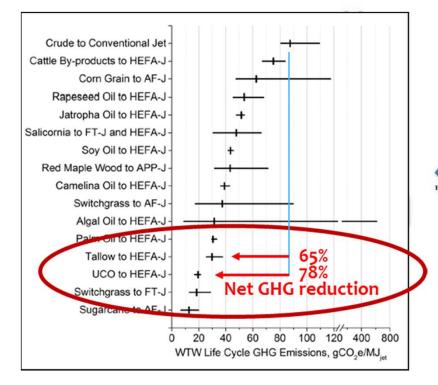
Fight Fi

**Sustainable Aviation Fuel** 

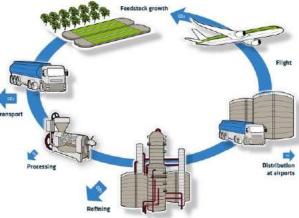
Acquiring the majority of our carbon from the atmosphere, via biology or recycling, and turning it back into fuel Result is a net reduction of additional GHG (CO<sub>2</sub>) being introduced into our biosphere.



## Achieving net Lifecycle GHG Reductions with SAF



#### Sustainable Aviation Fuel



Acquiring the majority of our carbon from the atmosphere, via biology or recycling, and turning it back into fuel

- Policy rewards reductions >50%
- Many solutions in the 60-80% range
- Some solutions achieve >100% via carbon sequest'n or other emission reductions



# **SAF Progress - technical**

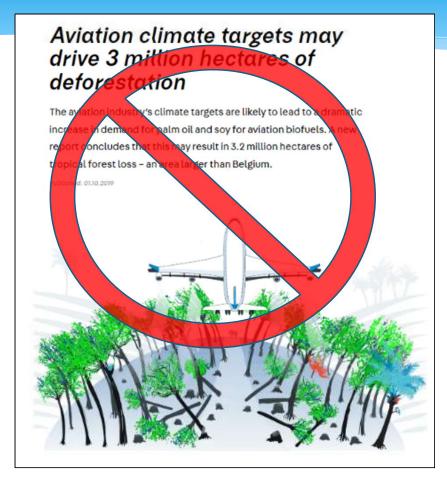
- \* SAF are becoming increasingly technically viable
  - \* Aviation now knows we can utilize numerous production pathways
    - (7 approved, 6 in-process, >15 in pipeline)
  - \* Enabling use of all major sustainable feedstocks (lipids, sugars, lignocellulose, H & C sources)
  - \* Utilizing thermo-chemical and bio-chemical conversion processes to produce pure hydrocarbons, followed by standard refinery processes
  - \* Following blending, fuel is drop-in, indistinguishable from petro-jet
  - Some future pathways will produce blending components that will need less, or zero, blending

12

- \* Expanding exploration of renewable crude co-processing with refineries
- \* Continuing streamlining of qualification and impacts time, \$, methods
- \* Challenge remaining is achieving production at reasonable cost



# No single feedstock is targeted, nor sufficient

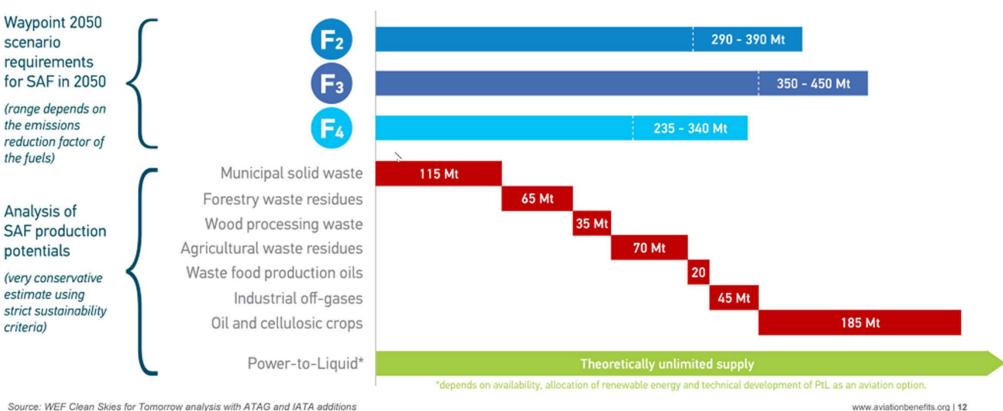


- Extrapolation of uniformed positions, sacrosanct beliefs and pet-peeves can lead to extraordinary theories and positions
- Aviation has embraced verifiable sustainability and standards, and has shunned some more controversial solutions



## SAF production potential

#### Targets of opportunity that do not compete for food or land use change



Source: WEF Clean Skies for Tomorrow analysis with ATAG and IATA additions

27 February 2021

COMMERCIAL AVIATION ALTERNATIVE FUELS INITIATIVE

# Aviation industry path to SAF evaluation and qualification – foundation of enabling specifications

#### \* ASTM D1655 - Standard Specification for Aviation Turbine Fuels

- \* **A1.1.2** ... Aviation turbine fuels with synthetic components produced in accordance with Specification D7566 meet the requirements of Specification D1655.
- \* ASTM D4054 Standard Practice for Qualification and Approval of New Aviation Turbine Fuels
  - \* **1.1** This practice covers and provides a framework for the qualification and approval of new fuels and new fuel additives for use in commercial and military aviation gas turbine engines...
- \* ASTM D7566 Standard Specification for Aviation Turbine Fuel Containing Synthesized Hydrocarbons
  - \* 1.2 ... Aviation turbine fuel manufactured, certified and released to all the requirements of this specification, meets the requirements of Specification D1655 and shall be regarded as Specification D1655 turbine fuel.



# **Progress on SAF production pathways**

ASTM D7566 Annex	Technology Type Process Feedstock		Process Feedstock Sources	Blend Requirement	Certification Date	Technology Developer*/ Licensor
A1	Fischer-Tropsch Synthetic Paraffinic Kerosene ( <b>FT-SPK</b> )	Syngas (CO and H₂)	Gasified sources of carbon and hydrogen. Biomass such as municipal solid waste (MSW), agricultural and forest residues, wood and energy crops, as well as non-renewable feedstocks such as coal and natural gas.	Yes, 50% max	2009	** <b>Sasol</b> , Shell, Velocys, Johson Mathey/BP, …
	Hydroprocessed Esters and Fatty Acids Synthetic Paraffinic Kerosene ( <b>HEFA-SPK</b> )	Fatty Acids and Fatty Acid Esters	Various lipids that come from plant and animal fats, oils, and greases (FOGs): chicken fat, white grease, tallow, yellow grease, brown grease, purpose grown plant oils, algal oils, microbial oils.	Yes, 50% max	2011	Honeywell UOP, Neste, Haldor-Topsoe, UPM,
Δ3	Hydroprocessed Fermented Sugars to Synthetic Isoparaffins ( <b>HFS-SIP</b> )	Sugars	Sugars from direct (cane, sweet sorghum, sugar beets, tubers, field corn) and indirect sources (C5 and C6 sugars hydrolyzed from cellulose);	Yes, 10% max	2014	Amyris
A4	Fischer-Tropsch Synthetic Paraffinic Kerosene with Aromatics ( <b>FT-SPK/A</b> )	Syngas	Same as A1	Yes, 50% max	2015	Sasol
A5	(AT.I-SPK)	ethanol and iso-butanol at	C2-C5 alcohols derived from direct and indirect sources of sugar (see A3), or those produced from microbial conversion of syngas	Yes, 50% max	2016	<b>Gevo, Lanzatech,</b> (others pending including Swedish Biofuels, Byogy,)
An	Catalytic Hydrothermolysis Synthesized Kerosene ( <b>CH-SK, or CHJ</b> )	Fats, Oils, Greases	Same as A2	Yes, 50% max	2020	Applied Research Associates (ARA) / CLG
A7	Hydroprocessed Hydrocarbons, Esters and Fatty Acids Synthetic Paraffinic Kerosene (HHC-SPK, or HC-HEFA)	Algal Oils	Specifically, bio-derived hydrocarbons, fatty acid esters, and free fatty acids. Recognized sources at present only include the tri- terpenes produced by the Botryococcus braunii species of algae.	Yes, 10% max	2020	IHI Corporation

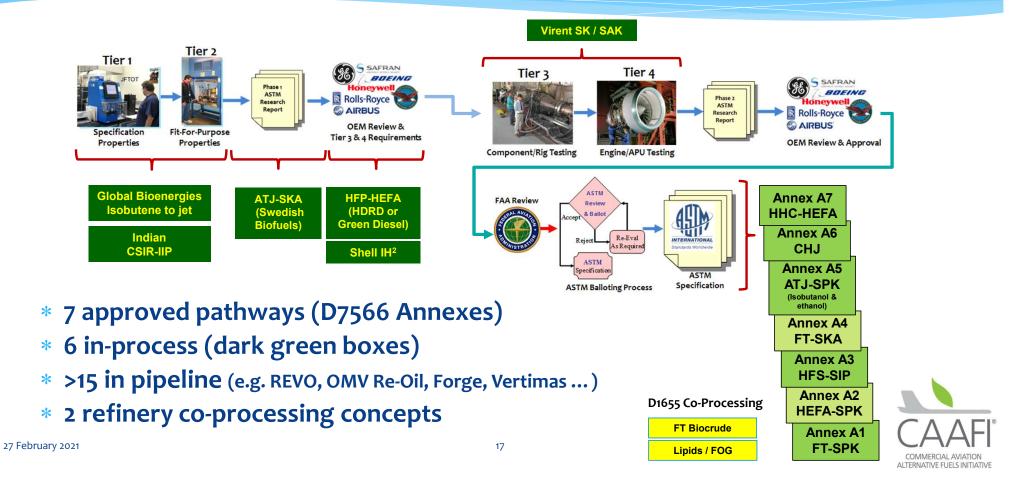
\* The entity who was primarily responsible for pushing the technology through aviation's D4054 qualification is shown in bold.

\*\* There are 3 major systems associated with FT conversion: Gasification, Gas Clean-up, and Fischer-Tropsch Reactor. This column focuses on the FT reactor only. There are over a hundred gasification entities in the world, and several of the major oil companies own and utilize gas clean-up technology. Further, up to the current time, FT reactors were only produced at very large scale. The unique technology brought to the market by Velocys *et al.* is a scaled-down, micro-channel reactor appropriately sized for processing of modest quantities of syngas as might be associated with a biorefinery.

27 February 2021

COMMERCIAL AVIATION ALTERNATIVE FUELS INITIATIVE

### ASTM D4054 Status Technologies applicable to SAF – see ASTM D7566



# **Promising emerging technologies**

- \* Those that lower cost or increase value
  - \* Lower CapEx
  - \* Lower OpEx enabling use of low-cost, plentiful, 24x7 type feedstocks
  - \* Integrated systems
  - \* Finding higher value for production slip streams or byproducts
  - \* Capturing value from other environmental services
  - \* Driving to ultra low CI scores to increase value from rewarding policy
- \* Steady stream of low TRL examples for the above
- \* In some other cases (e.g. electrofuels), difficult to envision nearterm tangible progress, rather mid-term

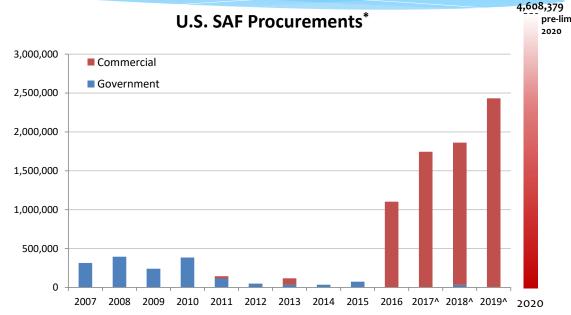


### Where we stand on U.S. SAF consumption Initiation under way, still early

Neat gallons/year

- Four years of sustained commercial use
- Commercial & General Aviation engaged
- \* One+ facilities in operation
- \* Two facilities under construction, others in development
- \* Cost delta still a challenge, with renewable diesel favored policies
- In spite of that ... we still have \$6B in airline offtake commitments for >350M gpy ... with more in development



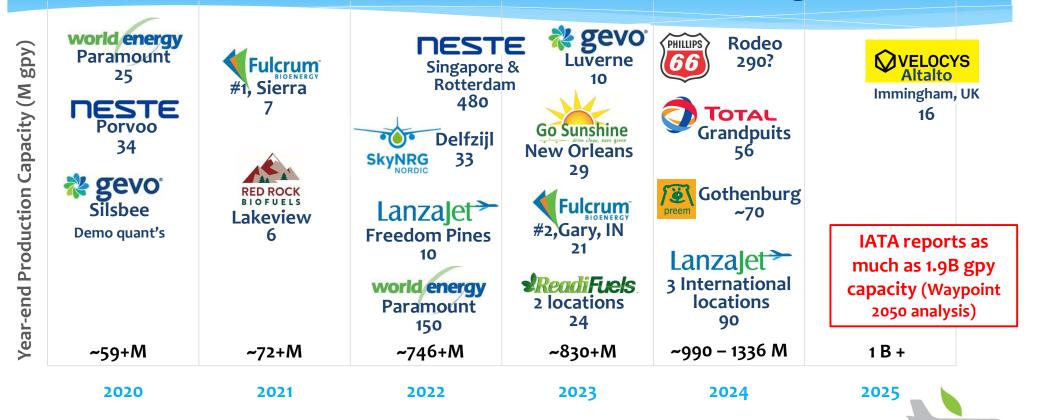


#### Credit: FAA

\*Reflects voluntarily reported data on use by U.S. airlines, U.S. government, manufacturers, other fuel users, and foreign carriers uplifting at U.S. airports. ^2017-2019 calculation includes reported EPA RFS2 RINs for jet fuel.



### Worldwide SAF production capacity forecast Announced intentions – most supported by offtake agreements\*

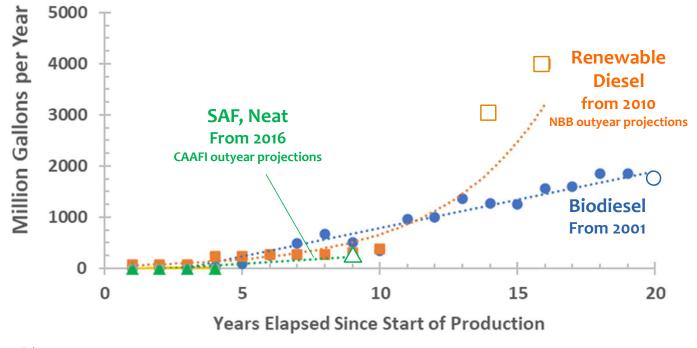


\* Not comprehensive; CAAFI estimates (based on technology used & public reports) where production slates are not specified

27 February 2021

COMMERCIAL AVIATION ALTERNATIVE FUELS INITIATIVE

### Industry focus on enabling SAF affordability



#### **US Biofuel Production Trends**

 We know what impact policy had on the ramp-up of ethanol and biodiesel / renewable diesel – it can be replicated for SAF



# Summary – let's not lose site that:

- \* Aviation will continue to use jet fuel for decades
- \* 94+% of CO2 comes from long-range and/or larger aircraft operations
  - \* Fuel / energy switching technologies are not applicable to these aircraft today
- \* Electrification/propulsion-switching TRL levels low beyond smallest applications
  - Power/Energy per unit mass and volume off by factor of 50 for larger aircraft
  - Limited experience with associated hardware
    - \* Motors, generators, inverters, higher-voltage conductors, switches, storage, control, thermal mgmt.,
- \* SAF can contribute to lower carbon aviation today, for any jet-powered flight
- \* SAF need H<sub>2</sub> for their manufacture, preferably low carbon H<sub>2</sub>
- \* H2 use for SAF sets stage for later expansion to other concepts, including mid-term PtL development
- You can build bridges to your technology development approaches by affirming the use of H2 for SAF production which starts us on our aviation decarbonization journey



# ASTM D7566 hydrogen needs

#### And use of low carbon hydrogen continues to lower SAF Carbon Index, increasing LCFS policy support value

ASTM D7566 Annex	Fuel Type	Descriptor (see D7566 Annexes A1-An, Paragraphs An.4, Material and Manufacture, for exact wording and requirements – summarized below)	Hydrogen Demand
A1	FT-SPK	Paraffins and olefins derived from synthesis gas via FT: Subsequent processing (hydrotreating, hydrocracking, or hydroisomerization) and subsequent refinery processes	$\widehat{1}$
A2	HEFA-SPK	Paraffins derived from hydrogenation and deoxygenation of FAE and FFA: Subsequent processing (hydrocracking, or hydroisomerization) and subsequent refinery processes	
A3	HFS-SIP	Hydroprocessed synthesized iso-paraffins derived from farnesene / fermentable sugars: Subsequent processing (Hydroprocessing and fractionation) and subsequent refinery processes	From 0.2% to 14.0% of mass
A4	FT-SPK/A	Same as A1 with addition of synthesized aromatics	of feedstock: sometimes
45	ATJ-SPK	Hydroprocessed SPK derived from ethanol/isobutanol Processed through dehydration, oligomerization, hydrogenation and fractionation	<ul> <li>coming from</li> <li>feedstock itself or</li> <li>process water</li> </ul>
A6	СНЈ	Comprised of hydroprocessed SKA from the HTL conversions of FAE and FFA Subsequent processing (hydrotreating, hydrocracking, or hydroisomerization) and subsequent refinery processes	
A7	HHC-SPK HC-HEFA	Paraffins derived from hydrogenation and deoxygenation of FAE and FFA: Subsequent processing (hydrocracking, or hydroisomerization) and subsequent refinery processes	

Find additional details in either ASTM D7566 or keep up to date at: http://www.caafi.org/focus\_areas/fuel\_qualification.html

COMMERCIAL AVIATION

ALTERNATIVE FUELS INITIATIVI

# **Overall industry status of SAF:**

- \* SAF are <u>key</u> for meeting industry's commitments starting yesterday
- \* We're making progress, but still significant challenges only modest production
- \* Focus on enabling commercial viability for which policy may play significant role
- Potential for acceleration a function of engagement, first facilities' success replication, additional technologies that continue to lower production cost, and preventing all governmental support from going to other tech. approaches
- \* Let's not allow a focus on less pragmatic options to distract from the fact that we need to be making progress today



Steve Csonka Executive Director, CAAFI +1-513-800-7980 Csonka.CAAFI.ED@gmail.com Steve.Csonka@caafi.org www.caafi.org info@caafi.org





