

Frankfurt Airport

STUDY CONFIRMS ADVANTAGES OF FLAT TAKEOFFS

The steeper an aircraft takes off, the less noise it causes for the region – that was a common assumption. A study has now disproved this for the Frankfurt region.

Some German airports recommend steep takeoff procedures for aircraft. The reasoning: in contrast to a “flat takeoff”, a steeply rising takeoff generates less noise. A study commissioned by the “Forum Flughafen & Region” has now proven the opposite for Frankfurt: according to the study, the flat takeoff leads to less noise overall in the region of the airport because the low altitude means that the noise is concentrated mainly in areas near the runway. This means that fewer residents are exposed to noise pollution in total. In addition,

flat takeoffs are more climate-friendly. The Lufthansa Group has therefore been using this procedure in Frankfurt since 2013. This saves up to 7,000 tons of CO₂ per year.

Following a comparable analysis for the Leipzig site, the Frankfurt study is already the second scientific proof of the advantages of flat takeoffs. Airports should review their recommendations for take-off procedures and noise charges based on them accordingly.

Shark in the sky

AUSTRIAN AIRLINES FLIES WITH “SHARK SKIN”

Austrian Airlines is the first airline in the world to equip Boeing 777-200ER aircraft with AeroSHARK. A total of four aircraft will be coated with the innovative surface technology from December 2024.

The shark skin-inspired film reduces frictional resistance when flying, and thus lowering fuel consumption by up to one percent. This will enable the airline to save over 2,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year in the future. This corresponds to roughly twelve flights from Vienna to New York.

New technologies such as AeroSHARK are a key in making flying more sustainable. Austrian Airlines is already the fourth Lufthansa Group company to introduce this innovation into its flight operations. Lufthansa Airlines, SWISS and Lufthansa Cargo have already been using the film developed by Lufthansa Technik and BASF for several years. Since 2019, around 24,000 tons of CO₂ have been saved in this way.

AeroSHARK reduces kerosene consumption

