FEWER, FASTER & BIGGER PLANES FOR GREATER SUSTAINABILITY

As an operator in a high-emissions industry, Freightways Group takes the responsibility of running a sustainable business seriously. Consequently, we committed to CEMARS (Certified Emissions Measurement And Reduction Scheme) in 2012, and, along with over 50 other leading Kiwi companies, formed the Climate Leaders Coalition in 2018.

Taking action

"Actions speak louder than words," as the saying goes. And, so to contribute meaningfully towards New Zealand becoming a low-emissions economy, businesses must strive for continual improvements.

One thing that we do at Freightways is regularly review our vehicle networks. We need to ensure that freight moves around the country as efficiently as possible and with minimum impact on the environment. We also work to regularly replace the trucks, vans, cars and other vehicles in our fleets with modern, more energy-efficient models, when available.

Switching to Boeing 737-400 jets

Palmerston North-based cargo airline Parcelair is a joint venture between Airwork Holdings and Freightways-owned Fieldair. Parcelair is responsible for flying freight between key New Zealand cities in the North and South Islands.

Our position on ongoing improvement of equipment extends to our air network and operating aircraft. In 2017, we took the bold action of replacing our fleet of five Turbo Propeller Convair aeroplanes.

Through collaboration with NZ Post, a combined fleet of ten aircraft was reduced to just three Boeing 737-400 jets.

Why replace our fleet?

Although it had served us well, the Convair fleet was no longer modern, and the aircraft had not been designed with environmental impact ’top of mind’. We realised, through consultation with Parcelair, that we could have less impact on the environment and better manage our growing freight volumes with just three 737-400 jets.

"The 737-400s burn more fuel per flight hour than the Convairs. However, they have considerably more capacity and speed. This means that fewer flights are required to move freight around the country, which means substantially less impact on the environment," says Freightways CEO Mark Troughear.

Mr Troughear says that the more modern 737-400 jet engines also require less maintenance than the Convairs and release relatively fewer emissions into the environment.

A summary of the benefits

- Consolidation, help us to move more freight with fewer flights.
- Fewer flights and more modern jet engines release fewer emissions into the environment.
- More parcels with fewer flights, thanks to superior capacity and speed.