



# **Electrified Powertrain Flight Demonstration (EPFD) Overview and Future**

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**PM, Electrified Powertrain Flight Demonstration Project  
NASA ARMD Integrated Aviation Systems Program**

**172<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Aeronautics and Space Engineering Board**

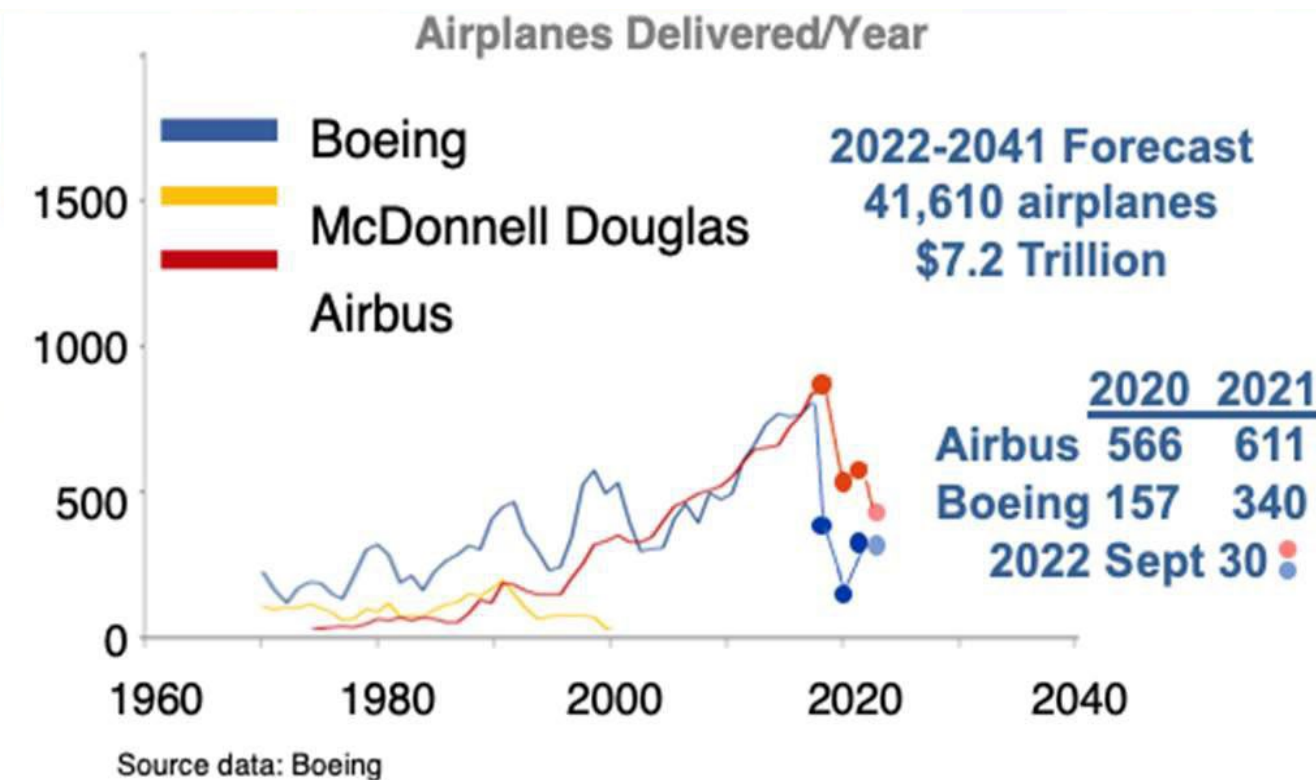
**October 17-18, 2023, 2023**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**Irvine, CA**

## Subsonic Transport Market - Global competition expanding

- \$78B positive trade balance; \$1.8T total U.S. economic activity
- 10.9M direct/indirect jobs
- 21.3B tons of freight transported by U.S. airlines in 2019





# Environmental Standards Landscape

Fleet Level – airplane, energy, & operations dependent

CORSIA Market-Based Measure (2020)

FAA Population Impacted by 65 (& 55) dB DNL

ATAG Goal for Net-Zero Carbon by 2050

## Airplane & Engine Level

CO<sub>2</sub> standard  
Airplane-level  
CAEP/10

New  
for 2020

nvPM standards  
Engine-level  
CAEP/10 (/11 in 2023)



Flight shaming,  
new standards,  
noise-limited capacity

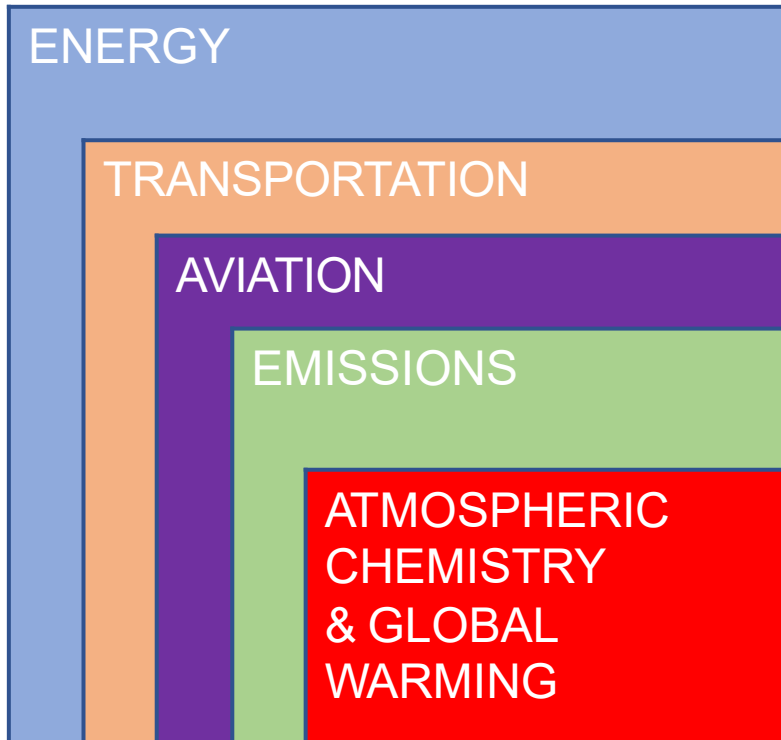
Noise regulation  
Airplane-level  
Chapter 14/Stage 5

Existing  
periodic updates

LTO NO<sub>x</sub> regulation  
Engine-level CAEP/8

ICAO CAEP exploring the feasibility of a “long-term aspirational goal” for carbon

# Aviation in Context of Energy, Transportation, and Climate



Reducing dependence on fossil fuel is the underlying challenge driving change across the entire energy sector

Aviation sector is hard to decarbonize and has unique altitude-based impacts and sensitivity to weight

Subsonic commercial airliner operations dominate aviation's climate impact

Lifecycle impact considerations – “source-to-tank” and “tank-to-wake” plus disposal and local air quality

Aviation will need to achieve BOTH net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and non-CO<sub>2</sub> radiative forcing IN-SECTOR to halt aviation's contribution to global warming. Non-CO<sub>2</sub> impacts comprise two-thirds of the net radiative forcing from aviation.

## Motivation (relative to climate change)

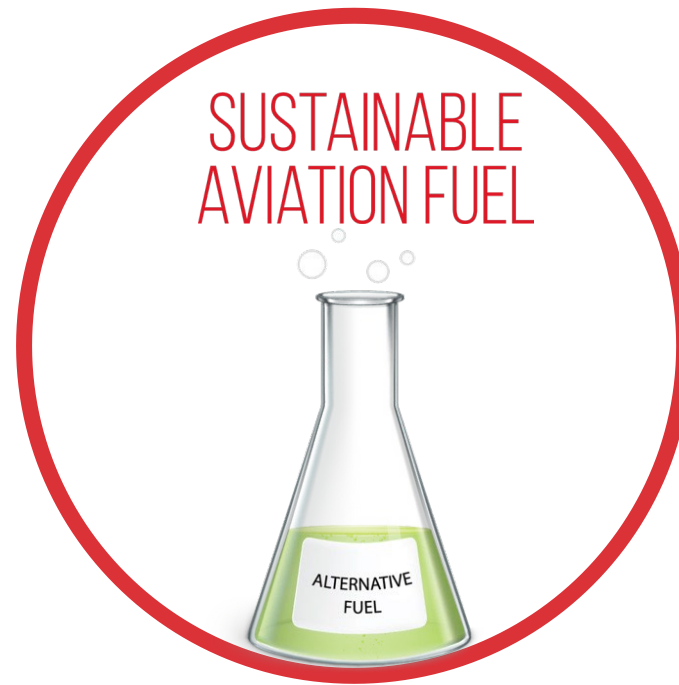
Halt aviation's contribution to global warming  
without suppressing flight demand and without out-of-sector offsets  
while remaining a viable and valued cornerstone of transportation

# Sustainable Aviation Pillars & NASA Roles

- Use less energy
  - reduces energy cost
  - reduces required fuel volume
  - airplane & propulsion technology
  - efficient operations
- Use cleaner energy
  - drop-in
  - non-drop-in
  - ...requires major change to airplane & infrastructure



NASA = Primary Role



NASA = Supporting Role



NASA = Primary Role



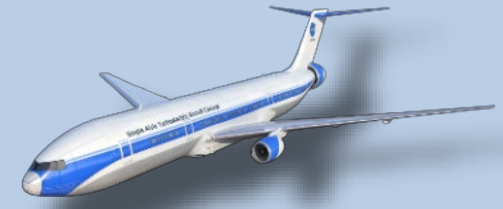
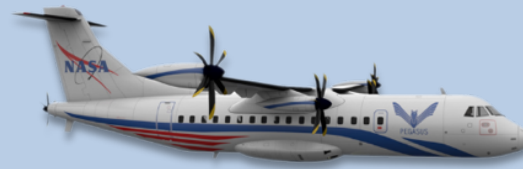
# Why is Electrified Aircraft Propulsion (EAP) Important?

## Why Mega Watt (MW)-Class?

- NASA and industry system studies show that EAP has the potential to reduce energy use, carbon and nitrogen oxide emissions
- EAP systems enable favorable direct operating costs (total energy and maintenance) resulting in benefits for both the public and the airline operators and is synergistic with low emission airport infrastructure changes
- EAP opens the design space and adds flexibility
  - Distributed architectures
  - Reduced turbofan core sizes
- EAP coupled with advanced airframe architectures may enable functionally silent and ultra-low emission flight

# 2030-2035 Entry-Into-Service Targets for EAP:

Thin haul, regional and next generation Sustainable Aviation markets



**Market**      **Regional Air Mobility**

**Regional Turboprops  
& Turbofans**

**Single Aisle**

**Passengers**

1-19

20-150

150-more

**Speed**

≈150-250 mph

≈300-400 mph

≈500-700 mph

**Range**

≈100-500 miles

500-1500 miles

1500-3500 miles

**Power**

≈1MW

1 to 5 MW

3 to 30MW

**Heat**

≈200 kW waste heat

200kw to 1MW waste heat

600kW to 6MW waste heat

1 MW Class Electrified Powertrain System is an inflection point to a new aircraft electrification S-curve





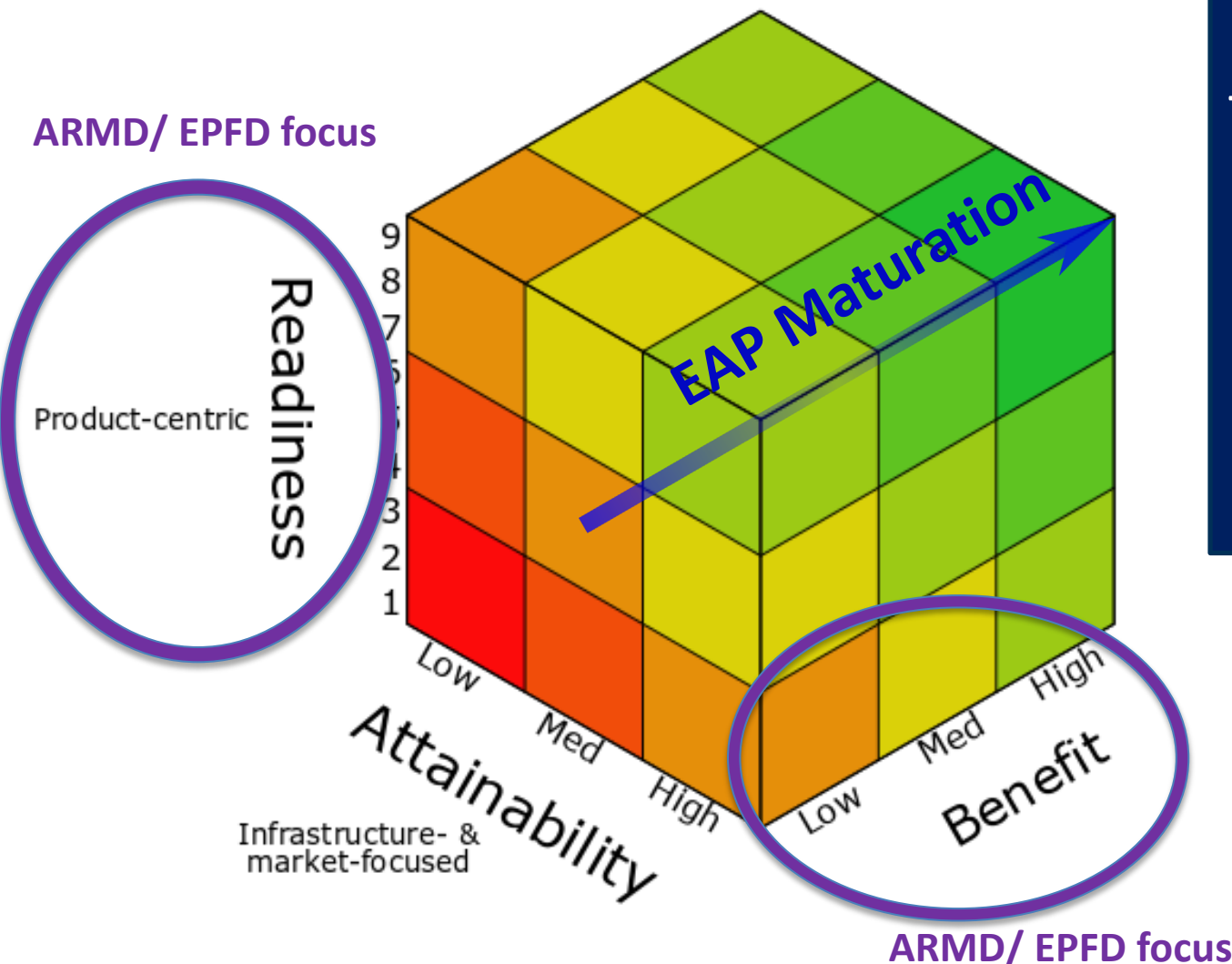
# EAP Readiness: Challenges and Opportunities

- Some questions need to be answered before electric aircraft flights are widespread
  - Has the **technology** improved enough?
    - Battery technology, thermal management, ...
  - How much **storage** is needed for reserves?
  - How would the **diversion** due to bad weather be handled?
  - How can an electric aircraft be **certified**?
    - Safety (fire)
  - Would **NAS operations** be affected by electric aircraft?
    - Takeoff, climb, cruise performance
    - Turnaround time
  - How much **infrastructure** change would be required?



# EAP Readiness, Attainability and Benefit

Source: ICAO LTAG Tech SG/ 2023



For EAP aircraft to become real, three roadmaps are needed:

- Technology (&ilities)
- Regulatory
- AND
- Infrastructure

WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS THAT MUST BE TACKLED FOR EACH ROADMAP?



# MW-Class Powertrain Barrier Technical Risks

## Barrier Risk

## Risk Statement

### High Voltage Operation at Altitude

Given that arcing, partial discharge and corona of high power/voltage transmission cables can occur at cruise altitudes or due to life effects, there is the possibility that the demonstrator could have power system failures, resulting in potential loss of aircraft.

### Thermal Management

Given that the amount of electrical power required for the demonstration is unprecedented in flight and generates significant low quality/low grade heat, there is a possibility that there will be unforeseen challenges in designing a low parasitic power thermal management system.

### Battery System Performance Shortfall

Given that the battery pack requirement exceeds current state of the art technology, there is a possibility that the battery system design does not meet performance requirements, resulting in a higher battery weight and decrease Vision Vehicle performance.



# MW-Class Powertrain Barrier Integration Risks

| Barrier Risk                         | Risk Statement  |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Propulsion System Integration</b> | Given that this electrified aircraft propulsion system is novel, there is a possibility that there are unforeseen conflicts in the turbomachinery integration with electric machines, resulting in, but not limited to, reduced operability and larger system weight that decreases overall Vision Vehicle performance. |
| <b>Powertrain System Integration</b> | Given that this powertrain system is novel, there is a possibility that there it will not meet stability, EMI compatibility, or performance requirements which will require a redesign, resulting in an increase in cost and delay in schedule for Vision Vehicle development.  |
| <b>Aircraft System Integration</b>   | Given that MW EAP has never been deployed on an aircraft before, there is a possibility that there are unforeseen conflicts integrating EAP system into the aircraft, resulting in an increase in cost and a delay in schedule and an inefficient aircraft.   |



# NASA's Aviation Sustainability Strategy

2008-2013

2014-2019

2020-2025

2026-2030

2030+

Subsonic Concept/Technology Studies  
Electric Aircraft Propulsion, Transonic Truss-  
Braced Wing

Environmentally  
Responsible Aviation  
(ERA) Project

Flight Demonstrator  
Studies

Advanced Composites (ACP)

## *Sustainable Flight National Partnership*

Sustainable Flight National Partnership  
(SFNP) to mature and integrate key  
technologies (**TRL 6**) for *next-generation*  
*subsonic transports (2030s)*

MBSE/SA

SFD Project

HiCAM

HyTEC

EPFD & AATT

*Today*

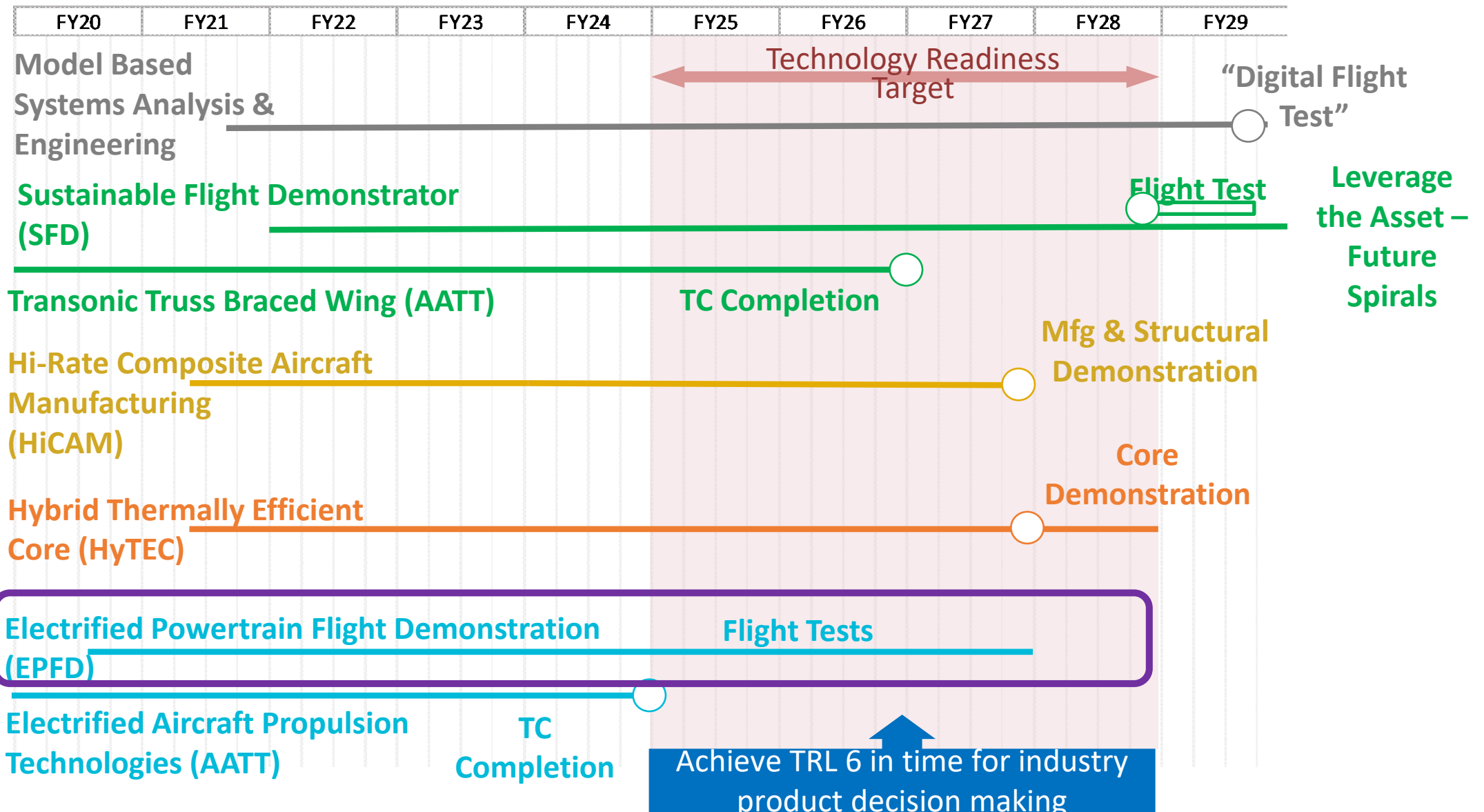
*Accelerating toward Net-Zero Carbon*

**Cast a wide net for  
zero-emission concepts  
and technologies**

*Powering Aviation to Net-Zero Carbon and Beyond*



# ARMD's Sustainable Flight National Partnership: Integrated Technology Development





# ARMD Electric Aircraft Propulsion (EAP) Portfolio

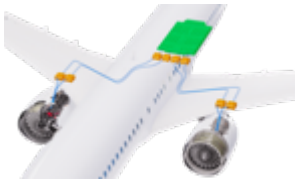
## ARMD Critical Commitment (CC) 3.1:

*Demonstrate practical vehicle-level integration of MW-class electrified aircraft propulsion systems, leveraging advanced airframe systems to reinvigorate the regional and emerging smaller aircraft markets and strengthen the single aisle aircraft market.*



**AATT FOCUS** - improving performance, lifetime, reliability and cost that will be required for entry into service

- Working on electrical and materials solutions which enables high performance and high efficiency machines and power electronics to operate at high voltage at altitude



**EPFD FOCUS** - providing real-world application thereby reducing EIS technology and integration barriers for emerging technologies through the flight demonstrations (magniX, GE)

- Tackling safety and integration at the powertrain, propulsion, and aircraft systems levels
- Exploring test methodologies for means of compliance and flight test data to inform regulations and standards



**HyTEC FOCUS** - reducing risk for electric powertrain integration in Single Aisle turbofan architecture

- Demonstrating power insertion/extraction on a modern commercial turbofan
- Maturing controls and energy management across dual spool turbofan engine

The current ARMD EAP Portfolio is synergistic and complimentary to achieving CC 3.1 through mid-TRL technology development and integrated ground and flight demonstrations.



# Electrified Powertrain Flight Demonstration Project

## Accelerate Transition of MW class powertrain systems to US transport aircraft fleet

## Scope

## Benefit

## Approach

## Industry Partners selected on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021:

- GE Aerospace, Cincinnati, OH: Single Aisle Market
- magniX , Everett WA: Regional Turboprop Market



| FY21 | FY22   | FY23 | FY24         | FY25-FY26 |
|------|--|------|--------------|-----------|
|      | Test 1 Prel/ detail design, fab & integration  |      |              |           |
|      |  |      | First flight | Test 1    |
|      | Test 2 Prel / detail design, fab & integration |      |              |           |
|      |  |      | First flight | Test 2    |