

Continental Airlines becomes first to use biofuel in flight

Jan. 8 -- Continental Airlines became the first airline to use biofuel during a flight in North America.

The Houston-based airline conducted a demonstration flight using a biofuel blend that includes derivatives of algae and jatropha plants.

The flight, from Houston's Bush Intercontinental Airport, did not carry any passengers.

Continental used biofuel, consisting of 50% biologically-derived fuel and 50% traditional jet fuel, in one of the Boeing 737-800's two engines. The other engine used traditional jet fuel.

“This demonstration flight represents another step in Continental's ongoing commitment to fuel efficiency and environmental responsibility,” said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Larry Kellner.

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