Runway Extension



- Nelson Airport has been planning for a runway extension for several years, and a runway extension was included in previous Master Plans.
- The current runway length leads to payload (passengers/cargo) restrictions for Air New Zealand ATR72 and Originair Jetstream aircraft.
- Under certain weather conditions, passenger and freight capacity is limited, impacting reliability for travellers, businesses and their customers.
- Air New Zealand and Originair have confirmed a longer runway would remove those restrictions.







Excludes Airports with <200,000 annual seats (2019)

At 1,347m, Nelson Airport's main runway is among the shortest runways in the world catering for Code C aircraft (with a wingspan of 24 to 36m).

- Significant effort is being expended globally in the development of sustainably powered aircraft – expected to be powered by batteries, hydrogen, and sustainable aviation fuels.
- The current focus in aircraft development is on fuel efficiency and sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels rather than optimising aircraft performance for short runways, such as we have at Nelson Airport.
- An extended runway is the best way for Nelson Airport to prepare for next-generation aircraft.



Source: Airbus ZEROe concept aircraft hydrogen powered turboprop