

Quarterly update 1 VDME programme 2024

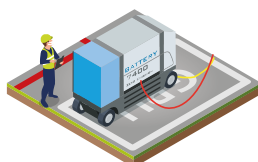
Working together towards a healthier environment

It is important that everyone at Schiphol has a healthy workplace. That is why the VDME programme is investigating the health effects of aircraft and diesel engine emissions (VDME). At the same time, the sector is taking the necessary measures to reduce VDME emissions and the exposure of employees. Last quarter we took further steps, and we'd like to highlight a few of them.



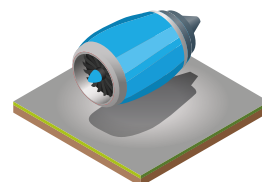
Exposure research

In the summer of 2023, an independent research institute (IRAS/NKAL) conducted an exposure study on airside. Airside colleagues were equipped with a GPS tracker and exposure measurement equipment to map their 8-hour average exposure to VME and DME. The results can be found on the Utrecht University [website](#).



Electric aircraft supply

The rollout of the electric ground power units (e-GPUs) continues to replace the HVO100 GPUs. Pier D (inside the tuning fork) is equipped with 13 e-GPUs and Pier C is equipped with 17 e-GPUs. This makes a total of 30 e-GPUs.



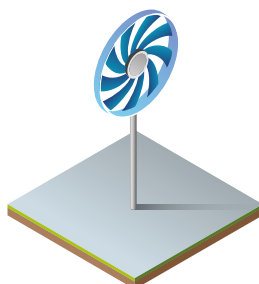
Reduce APU usage

The rules for the use of the APU (auxiliary engine in the tail of the aircraft) have been renewed. This includes the permitted duration the APU is allowed to be on and the exceptions. In addition, a campaign has started to actively inform the pilots of these new regulations. Together with SAA and IL&T we are investigating the enforcement of APU use.



Respiratory protection

After completing the respiratory protection pilot among Schiphol employees, we also started this pilot in collaboration with the sector. Four masks were found to be most suitable. All equipment, and especially these four, are now also being tested by the sector. The results of the sector pilot are expected in May.



Innovations

The Cirquair is a machine that filters ultrafine particles from the air and blows out the cleaner air. It was placed at D23 (the research lab) in the beginning of May. Previous experiments with the Cirquair have shown positive results! The machine has not yet been tested in the open air on airside; this will be done in the coming months.



Adjusting arrival and departure procedures

The Taskforce Sustainable Ground Movement is a unique collaboration between LVNL, Schiphol, airlines and ground handlers. The aim is to develop an action plan this year for adjusting arrival and departure procedures and identifying and implementing short-term measures, such as seamless inbound flow and push-pull procedures.

What can you do?

You can also contribute to a healthier workplace! For example, always use a zero-emissions alternative when available and encourage right behaviour among colleagues. Wearing the available FFP2 masks also has health benefits. Do you have any ideas about how we can make your workplace healthier? Send an email to luchtkwaliteit@schiphol.nl.