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Airlines create extra CO2 by 'fuel-tanking' – 13th November, 2019

Level 0

A worker said airlines create extra CO2 by fuel-tanking. This is when airplanes have extra fuel to go somewhere and come back. Airlines use "fuel-tanking" to save money. It is bad for the environment. Fuel-tanking creates lots of CO2. It creates as much CO2 each year as a large town.

The boss of British Airways promised to look at this problem. He said fuel-tanking was "maybe the wrong thing to do". A flight from London to Italy puts an extra 600kg of CO2 into the air because of fuel-tanking. The airline saves just \$50. Greenpeace said airlines put profit before the planet.

Level 1

A worker told newspapers about an airline creating extra CO2. The person is a whistleblower - someone who tells bad company secrets. The airlines use "fuel-tanking" to save money. This is when airplanes store extra fuel to fly somewhere and come back. It is bad for the environment and global warming. The airline saves money, but fuel-tanking creates lots of CO2 - as much each year as a large town does.

In a BBC documentary, the CEO of British Airways promised to look at this problem. He said fuel-tanking was "maybe the wrong thing to do". It saves very little money, but there is a big cost to the environment. A flight from London to Italy saves just \$50 for an airline, but puts an extra 600kg of CO2 into the air. Greenpeace said airlines put profit before the planet. It said airlines will do anything to make more profit.

Level 2

A British Airways worker told newspapers about the company creating extra CO2. The person is a whistleblower - someone who tells bad company secrets. He said British Airways (BA) and other airlines use "fuel-tanking" to save money. Fuel-tanking is when airplanes store extra fuel to fly somewhere and come back. It is bad for the environment. It adds to global warming. The airline saves money by buying cheaper fuel in its home country instead of more expensive fuel at its destination. Fuel-tanking puts as much CO2 in the air each year as a large town does.

In a BBC documentary about British Airways and fuel-tanking, the CEO of BA promised to look at this problem. He said BA uses the fuel-tanking method and that it was "maybe the wrong thing to do". Not much money is saved by fuel-tanking, but there is a big cost to the environment. A flight from London to Italy can have three tons of extra fuel. The airline saves just \$50, but an extra 600kg of CO2 goes into the atmosphere. Greenpeace said this was an example of a company putting profit before the planet. It said airlines will do anything to boost profits.

Level 3

An employee who works for British Airways (BA) has told newspapers about the company creating more CO2. The unnamed person is a whistleblower - someone who tells the truth about company secrets. The whistleblower said BA and many other airlines use "fuel-tanking" to save money. However, fuel-tanking is very bad for the environment. Scientists say it adds to global warming. Fuel-tanking is when airplanes store extra fuel to get to their destination and back. This means the airline saves money by paying for all the fuel in its home country instead of buying more expensive fuel at its destination. Scientists say fuel-tanking puts as much CO2 in the air each year as a large town.

A documentary about British Airways and fuel-tanking was shown on the BBC this week. In the documentary, the CEO of BA promised to look again at how it carries fuel. He said the airline uses the fuel-tanking method and said it was "maybe the wrong thing to do". The money saved by fuel-tanking for each flight is very small, but there is a big cost to the environment. A recent flight from London to Italy had three tons of extra fuel. The airline saved just \$50 on the flight but an extra 600kg of CO2 was put into the atmosphere. Greenpeace said this was a "classic example of a company putting profit before planet". It said: "They'll happily pour extra fuel on the fire for a small boost to their profit margin."