

# Seattle-Tacoma International Airport



Port of Seattle image by Don Wilson (Sea-Tac's Concourse A, 19 March 2011)

**“By switching to the Dyson Airblade™ Tap, we’re going to save over two million feet worth of paper towels—equivalent to about three one-way trips from Seattle to Portland, Oregon.”**

Steve Rybolt, Environmental Manager

### The Business

Operated by the Port of Seattle, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) opened in 1944. Sea-Tac is home to 23 airlines with over 70 non-stop routes. It ranks as the 15th-busiest airport in the United States, with over 37 million passengers in 2014, and it’s the largest airport in the Pacific Northwest region of North America.



Airblade™ technology costs up to 69% less to run per year than other hand dryers, and up to 97% less than paper towels.<sup>1</sup>

### The Problem

The Port of Seattle strives to become the cleanest, greenest and most energy efficient port in the nation. In 2009, the Port adopted an environmental strategy plan affecting all of its facilities, including Sea-Tac. One way Sea-Tac looked to incorporate the environmental strategy plan was in the operations of its restrooms. Sea-Tac wanted to reduce its carbon emissions, decrease its waste and lower its potable water in its passenger restrooms. At the same time, Sea-Tac was also seeking a solution to improve its restroom cleanliness. “We put a high priority on clean restrooms,” said Susan Goodspeed, Customer Service Project Manager.

### The Solution

Sea-Tac partnered with Dyson to install Dyson Airblade™ Tap units, which allow passengers to wash and dry hands at the sink, into its sustainable restroom project and removed all paper towel dispensers from those restrooms.

### CO<sub>2</sub> reduction

Dyson Airblade™ hand dryers produce up to 79% less CO<sub>2</sub> than some other hand dryers and up to 76% less than recycled paper towels.<sup>2</sup>

### Waste cutback

“We’re going to save over two million feet worth of paper towels, which is equivalent to about

three one-way trips from Seattle to Portland,” calculated Steve Rybolt, Environmental Manager.

“The reduction of paper towel waste means that we’ll be able to reduce the amount of time it takes janitorial staff to come in and empty the trash cans and the frequency of that,” Goodspeed added.

### Water savings

Dyson Tap hand dryers offer multiple aerator options, which can help lower water usage. “We had fixtures that used 1.1 gallons per minute. With the new Airblades we’re going to use the 0.5-gallon per minute flow rate,” stated Rybolt.

### The Results

Sea-Tac was one of the first airports in the U.S. to install Dyson Airblade™ Tap units in its restrooms. Rybolt asserts, “I think our customers will have a new, unique experience because they can wash and dry their hands in a one-stop area and really that’s the key for them to get in and out of the restroom as fast as possible.”

<sup>1</sup>For calculations, visit [airblade.dyson.com/calcs](http://airblade.dyson.com/calcs).

<sup>2</sup>Calculated using PE International GaBi software and method developed with Carbon Trust based on five years use and dry times measured using Dyson test method 769 based on NSF P335 with a measurement of 0.1g residual moisture.

To try the Dyson Airblade™ hand dryer or for more information call or visit:

1-888-DYSON-AB  
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