



eVTOL INSIGHTS

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF
ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY

May 2026

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WORLD'S FIRST COMMERCIAL VERTIPORT BY DUBAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT REACHES TECHNICAL COMPLETION

**SKYDRIVE BECOMES JAPAN'S
FIRST EVTOL DEVELOPER TO
EARN ADO CERTIFICATION**

**EVE AIR MOBILITY BUILDS
FLIGHT TEST MOMENTUM WITH
50 SUCCESSFUL FLIGHTS**

**ASCENDANCE SECURES €12.2
MILLION FUNDING TO SCALE
UP STERNA PROGRAM**

**DOWNTOWN SKYPORT IN NYC
WELCOMES POINT-TO-POINT
EVTOL FLIGHTS**

**WISK'S SECOND GENERATION OF
ITS GEN 6 AIRCRAFT TAKES FLIGHT**

**VOLOCOPTER LAUNCHES ITS
VOLOXPRO AIRCRAFT**

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Welcome



Over the past month, the global Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) sector has continued its steady transition from vision to early-stage execution. What was once dominated by conceptual designs and ambitious timelines is now increasingly defined by tangible progress in certification pathways, infrastructure planning and commercial partnerships.

Key milestones include Vertical Aerospace completing a full two-way transition flight, moving from vertical take-off to wingborne cruise and back to vertical landing in a single flight. This is widely considered a defining capability for eVTOL aircraft and a critical certification milestone.

Over in the US, Joby Aviation conducted a piloted air taxi flight across San Francisco Bay, including a route around the Golden Gate Bridge. This showcased real-world operational potential in dense urban environments.

Several leading developers have reported incremental but meaningful advances in flight testing and regulatory engagement, particularly in North America and Europe.

These updates underscore a broader industry trend: timelines are becoming more grounded, with companies prioritising safety validation and certification rigor over rapid—but unrealistic—deployment targets. Encouragingly, regulators are maintaining active dialogue with manufacturers.

Infrastructure has also moved further into focus. Vertiport planning, once a secondary consideration, is now central to deployment strategies, with new pilot projects and urban integration studies emerging across key markets.

Meanwhile, partnerships between AAM firms and established aerospace suppliers continue to deepen, signalling a maturing supply chain and recognition that scaling production will require industrial discipline.

However, challenges remain. Funding conditions are tighter than in previous years, placing pressure on smaller entrants and reinforcing the likelihood of consolidation. Public perception and community acceptance also continue to be critical variables that cannot be overlooked.

While widespread commercial operations are still on the horizon, the foundations being laid today suggest that the sector is moving, cautiously but credibly, in the right direction.

— Jason Pritchard, Executive Editor,
eVTOL Insights

Main news - North America

Viasat welcomes L2 Aviation to its Velaris ecosystem via Galaxy 1 Communications, turning satellite connectivity into certified AAM capability

L2 Aviation has joined Viasat's Velaris ecosystem via Galaxy 1 Communications, bringing advanced avionics integration and certification expertise to Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) and uncrewed aviation.

Until now, the industry sector has focused primarily on technical feasibility demonstrations. However, scaling operations safely depend on embedding connectivity into certified avionics architectures that can operate within regulated airspace.



By welcoming L2 Aviation into the Velaris ecosystem, Viasat has taken a further step towards closing that gap.

Joel Klooster, SVP Aircraft Operations and Safety at Viasat, said: "Right now, the industry is focused on what it will take to enable routine, regulated AAM operations, so it is clear that certification-ready connectivity and avionics integration must advance together."

"Bringing L2 Aviation into the Velaris ecosystem through Galaxy 1 reflects that shift from proving concepts to building operational capability. Their experience strengthens how Velaris supports the next phase of AAM deployment, where safety, certification, and scalability are immediate priorities."

Through the Velaris ecosystem, L2 will apply this expertise to support the integration and certification of satellite communications (satcom) for uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS) and AAM platforms as they transition from demonstration to deployment.

The Velaris ecosystem connects connectivity, integration, and service partners to help operators move from early deployments to compliant, scalable operations.

The move follows March's news that Galaxy 1 Communications is collaborating with Viasat to enhance the delivery of Velaris within the industry.

Working closely with Viasat, Galaxy 1 is extending the reach of Velaris through its Distribution Partner-as-a-Service (DPaaS) model and bringing further experts, like L2 Aviation, into the ecosystem. Rather than acting as a traditional distributor, Galaxy 1 provides a managed operational layer that abstracts the complexity of provisioning, billing, compliance oversight and integration into a unified framework.

Joby Aviation Brings Electric Air Taxis to New York City in Week-Long Flight Campaign

Joby Aviation has completed the first-ever point-to-point eVTOL air taxi demonstration flights in New York City's history, which was part of a week-long public campaign across the city's existing heliport network.

Starting on April 27th, the campaign offered the first real-world demonstration of how electric air taxis would connect the region, linking vertiports, international airports and communities across the New York metropolitan area.

Joby's aircraft (N545JX) departed from John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) and landed across the city's existing heliport network, including Downtown Skyport, and the West 30th Street and East 34th Street Heliports in Midtown, home to Blade Air Mobility's premium passenger lounges.

Together, these sites trace some of the commercial routes the company envisions for New York, connecting Lower Manhattan and Midtown to JFK in under 10 minutes.

The flights continue Joby's 2026 Electric Skies Tour, a national showcase timed to celebrate the United States' 250th anniversary, following the tour's inaugural Bay Area flight campaign, which included a landmark flight over the Golden Gate Bridge.

JoeBen Bevirt, founder and CEO of Joby, said: "New York has always been a city that defines the

future by demanding better. We first flew here in 2023, and now we're showing what the next chapter looks like: a quiet, zero operating emissions air taxi service designed to better serve New Yorkers.

"This week, flying between JFK and Manhattan, we showed what the White House-backed eIPP initiative makes possible and offered New York a look at what's coming."

In a city where a typical commuter lost, by one estimate, 102 hours to traffic congestion in 2025, Joby's goal is to reclaim that time by transforming a 60-to-120-minute drive to JFK into a seven-minute flight.



Main news – North America

Wisk's Flight Test Program Accelerates As Second Generation of its Gen 6 Aircraft Takes Flight

Wisk has completed the first flight of its second Generation 6 aircraft, in the latest milestone in the company's flight test program and scale after the first Gen 6 aircraft started its flight test campaign in December 2025.

Conducted at Wisk's flight test facility in Hollister, California, on Friday, May 1st, the flight included vertical takeoff, hover, and chirp maneuvers – an important first step in characterizing the aircraft's performance.

The addition of a second active Gen 6 flight test vehicle significantly expands Wisk's capacity to collect data, validate systems, and accelerate the flight test campaign.

Sebastien Vigneron, CEO of Wisk, said: "Seeing the second Gen 6 aircraft take to the skies is a proud moment for Wisk. This pace of execution is exactly what is required to meet the rigorous safety standards of commercial aviation.

"Having multiple aircraft in flight testing allows us to move faster, learn quicker, and stay on the leading edge of autonomous aviation. Every flight provides crucial data that matures our aircraft and autonomous

system, bringing us one step closer to delivering a certified, autonomous air taxi service."

The dual-aircraft testing phase will focus on expanding the flight envelope, including transitions from hover to wing-borne flight, while continuing to refine the control laws and system performance. Wisk's Gen 6 aircraft is designed to meet or exceed current commercial aviation safety standards.

Wisk will use its autonomous systems and aircraft to drive the program's operational execution, conducting real-world flight operations in the U.S. National Airspace. In addition to its work in Texas, Wisk continues to collaborate closely with the FAA and NASA to cement U.S. leadership in AAM



Speedbird and Moya Aero Sign Strategic MoU to Explore Integrated Drone Logistics Collaboration

Moya Aero and Speedbird have signed a nonbinding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance drone logistics and next-generation aerial mobility solutions.

The MoU signed yesterday (Monday) establishes a structured framework for both companies to evaluate operational synergies, technology integration and potential long-term partnership models. It will also maintain full independence, without creating binding commercial commitments.

The MoU highlights the complementary capabilities and product lines of both companies, spanning from under 25kg (55lbs) to up to

600kg (1320 lbs) of Maximum Take-Off Weight (MTOW). Initial efforts will prioritize opportunities in the Americas, with optional future evaluation of Europe and Asia.

Manoel Coelho, CEO of Speedbird Aero, said: "This exploratory collaboration would allow us to continue to focus on our core delivery missions and capabilities, while looking at expanding the range of solutions we can potentially offer to customers—sharing operational commonality in a way that is unprecedented in the drone industry."

A Shared Vision for Scalable Aerial Logistics

The collaboration will focus on identifying opportunities to combine Moya's large capacity tilt-body eVTOL with Speedbird's certified drone logistics operations and software ecosystem.

Areas of exploration include:

- Interoperability between aircraft, systems, and Command & Control platforms
- Operational synergies in drone logistics and coordinated go-to-market strategies
- Joint access to grants, public funding, innovation programs, and industry forums

Together, the companies aim to evaluate an integrated fleet offering ranging from small drones to large eVTOL aircraft, enabling scalable logistics solutions for diverse markets.

Speedbird Aero is a global company with headquarters in Brazil and Portugal, specializing in unmanned aerial logistics. The company develops, manufactures, and operates drone delivery systems and is certified for BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Sight) operations with multiple aircraft models.



Main news – North America

eVTOL Insights heading to Arizona in 2027 for its North America Conference & Awards, scheduled for late April

eVTOL Insights is pleased to announce its next North America Conference will be in Phoenix, Arizona and is scheduled for late April 2027. Exact dates and venue details will be confirmed in due course.

Following the continued growth and success of its North America Conference series, the latest of which happened at the National Advanced Air Mobility Center of Excellence in Ohio last week, eVTOL Insights is bringing its event to one of the United States' fastest-growing innovation hubs.

Phoenix offers a dynamic ecosystem for aerospace, technology and mobility, making it an ideal location to convene global industry leaders, policymakers, investors and innovators shaping the future of eVTOL aircraft and urban air mobility.

The 2027 conference will build on previous editions, by delivering high-level keynote presentations, panel discussions and networking

opportunities. Attendees can expect in-depth insights into a host of different industry topics, from certification, infrastructure, operations and emerging technologies driving the AAM market forward.

Two site visits will also be organised either side of the conference, giving delegates an exclusive opportunity to go behind the scenes of companies working in this industry.

And in addition to the conference, eVTOL Insights will once again host its Global AAM Awards after the program finishes, recognising continued excellence in Individual, Team and Company categories.

Speaker and sponsorship opportunities are now available, with various packages to cater for additional exposure and awareness.

For more information, please contact Sam Bromley, Sales Manager at eVTOL Insights, via email. He can be reached via sam@evtolinsights.com

Further details, including confirmed dates, venue, speaker announcements and registration information, will be released in the coming months.



Main news – North America

Eve Air Mobility Builds Flight-Test Momentum With 50 Successful Flights

Eve Air Mobility has reached its 50th successful test flight with its full-scale engineering prototype, accumulating more than two hours of flight time.

Since the aircraft's first flight on December 19th 2025, these flights have generated high-fidelity data and knowledge gains which are strengthening Eve's understanding of performance and systems behavior as the company advances toward the future certification pathway of its eVTOL aircraft.

Johann Bordais, chief executive officer at Eve Air Mobility, said: "Reaching 50 successful test flights with our engineering prototype is

more than a technical milestone. It is clear evidence of the maturity of our program and the strength of the solutions we are building."

"Eve is uniquely positioned to deliver not only a high-performance eVTOL aircraft but also aftermarket services, operational and airspace solutions that customers and cities will require to deploy urban air mobility at scale."

The fast pace of testing continues to validate the performance and operational capability of Eve's eVTOL. This achievement spotlights the company's product development process, based on the proven Embraer methodology.

This consists of an integrated approach that combines aircraft development with solutions to help operators, cities, vertiports and air navigation providers prepare for the introduction of urban aviation.

The results and knowledge gained from flights with the full-scale engineering prototype are central to the development of Eve's conforming prototypes and the commercial aircraft. The company expects to begin producing its conforming prototypes this year, progressing toward a total of six that will be used in the certification flight test campaign with Brazil's civil aviation authority, ANAC.

With 50 test flights completed, Eve is now expanding flight envelope evaluations, gradually increasing forward speed, evaluating energy management, controllability and stability, noise and vibration, among others, leading to full transition flights later this year.



MHI RJ Aviation Group to Help Advance Development of Horizon Aircraft's Cavorite X7 VTOL Hybrid-Electric Aircraft

Horizon Aircraft has announced an agreement with MHI RJ Aviation Group (MHIRJ), a subsidiary of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd, which will support the ongoing development of Horizon's hybrid-electric VTOL aircraft, the Cavorite X7.

Through this partnership, MHIRJ will provide specialist engineering services focused on the design and development of flight test instrumentation for the Cavorite X7. This effort is essential to enable critical data collection from the aircraft's flight test program expected to begin in early 2027.

In addition, MHIRJ will offer broad engineering support and utilize its regional aviation expertise to help move the Cavorite X7 program forward.

Elio Ruggi, Senior Vice-President, Chief Engineer- Head of Aircraft Development, Quality & Flight Ops, MHIRJ, said: "We're excited to team up with Horizon Aircraft on their innovative Cavorite X7 project. With our expertise in engineering and regional aviation, we believe we can make a significant impact as they lead the way in hybrid-electric VTOL aircraft."

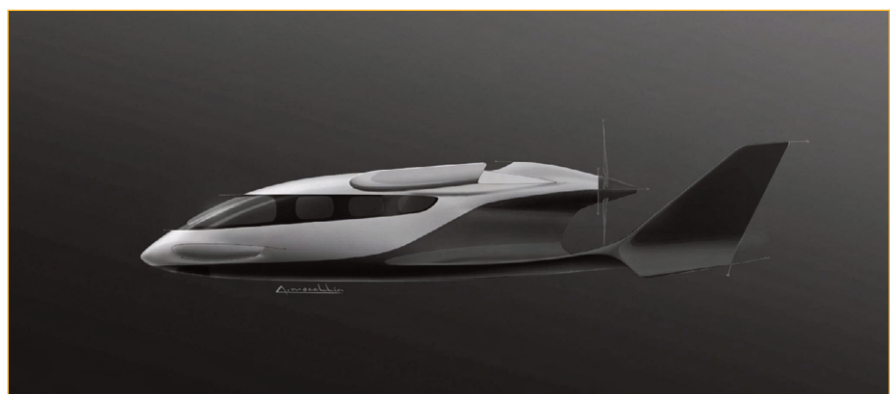
Founded in 2020 following Mitsubishi Heavy Industries' acquisition of the CRJ Series

program, one of the world's most successful regional aircraft families, MHIRJ brings decades of experience designing, certifying, and producing new aircraft types.

The MHI RJ Aviation Group (MHIRJ) provides comprehensive critical operational, engineering and customer support solutions including maintenance, refurbishment, technical publications, marketing and sales activities for the global regional aircraft industry.

Horizon Aircraft is developing one of the world's first hybrid-electric VTOL (Vertical Take-Off and Landing) aircraft designed to fly most of its mission in traditional wing-borne flight, offering industry-leading speed, range, and operational utility.

Upon successful completion of testing and certification of its full-scale aircraft, Horizon Aircraft intends to scale unit production to meet expected demand from regional operators, emergency service providers, and military customers.





Get in front of the camera with eVTOL Insights and secure a live video interview opportunity at this year's Farnborough Airshow.

eVTOL Insights is offering live video interview opportunities at this year's Farnborough International Airshow, providing aerospace and advanced air mobility companies with a powerful platform to share insights, announcements and perspectives directly from one of the industry's most influential global events.

Taking place from July 20th to 24th, eVTOL Insights will conduct and broadcast live, on-site video interviews on the 20th and 21st, which will help exhibitors and participants maximise their presence at the airshow by engaging audiences well beyond the show floor.

Live interviews will usually last between 10 to 12 minutes and can explore the most pressing topics shaping the future of the Advanced Air Mobility market, including certification progress, infrastructure development, propulsion technologies, sustainability, autonomy and emerging commercial strategies.

In addition to live broadcast exposure, each interview will receive amplification across eVTOL Insights' editorial and digital platforms, including written coverage, social media promotion and inclusion in post-event content packages, ensuring continued visibility long after the airshow concludes.

Interview slots are being charged at £999 each and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. The price includes an edited version which can be used to promote on social media for marketing purposes.

Companies interested in participating are encouraged to contact Sam Bromley, Sales Manager at eVTOL Insights. His email is sam@evtolinsights.com.

Main news - Europe

Volocopter launches VoloXPro, its electrically powered ultralight multicopter for air sports and professional passenger transport

Volocopter has presented its newly developed VoloXPro aircraft — an electrically powered ultralight multicopter which has been designed to target flight schools, flying clubs, air sports enthusiasts and sightseeing flight operators.

Internationally, the VoloXPro is intended for use as an air taxi in professional passenger transport with certification as an ultralight planned for Germany at the end of 2026, alongside parallel approval processes in other European countries.

The VoloXPro is a completely new development by Volocopter, with the company saying it promises emission-neutral and low-noise multicopter flying for a wide range of users and applications. Its innovative platform concept enables Volocopter to offer the VoloXPro in different technical configurations depending on the intended use and customer requirements.

David Bausek, CTO at Volocopter, said: “With the ultralight VoloXPro, electric multicopter flying at the safety standard of a passenger aircraft — at the price of a luxury car — will become possible for private customers and commercial operators.

“Thanks to the fly-by-wire control system, flying is easier than ever before, and all of it is low-noise and emissions-free.”

The VoloXPro features a modular design. It incorporates components already developed for the VoloCity, designed for air taxi operations as well as medical and police transport. This results in an exceptionally high safety structure comparable to the reliability of a commercial airliner. This extraordinarily high safety standard is new in Germany’s ultralight aircraft category.

In addition to its high safety level, the modular design also allows Volocopter to achieve attractive pricing for operators and private individuals. The shared use of technical components between the VoloCity and VoloXPro, combined with ultralight certification, significantly reduces costs.



Electra, Bristow Group and Avinor launch second test project for electric aviation in Norway

Bristow Group, Electra, Avinor and the Norwegian Civil Aviation Authority have announced the launch of a second international test project for zero- and low-emission aviation.

The project builds on Norway’s established international test arena and aims to generate operational, regulatory and market knowledge supporting the introduction of electric and hybrid-electric aircraft.

Under the agreement, Electra and Bristow will conduct demonstrations involving Electra’s hybrid-electric Ultra Short aircraft. The goal is to examine the possibilities of novel aircraft operations to

transform regional mobility networks, unlocking capabilities not possible with a conventional aircraft or even a helicopter.

The demonstration flights will focus on several use cases, including integration of ultra-short operations at existing short runways, the use of novel access points like parking lots, drone pads or fields to support unserved or underserved communities, and the ability to feed services into major hub airports without adding congestion.

Testing will be carried out in phases, progressing from operations at smaller airports in Northern Norway, to testing from novel or adapted access points, and finally, to operations feeding into a major Norwegian aviation hub. Exact test locations will be defined during the preparation phase and concluded within approximately six months, with the aim of commencing test operations mid-2027.



Each demonstration will provide insight into emissions reductions, novel operational concepts, and the scalability of regional air mobility services. Structured testing under Norway’s regulatory sandbox will also give regulators practical insight into how these operations can be evaluated and supported.

Building on experience from the first international test project, the programme moves beyond route-specific testing to broader exploration of operational, infrastructural and regulatory aspects.

Main news - Europe

LYTE Aviation has announced a receipt of ten Conditional Purchase Orders (CPO) from Vman Aviation Services for its SkyClinic aircraft, a purpose-built hybrid-hydrogen electric tandem tilt-wing VTOL.

LYTE says the agreement represents a total order value of €500 million with milestone-triggered deposits of €10 million, adding that it marks one of the most significant early-stage commitments in the advanced air mobility sector to date. LYTE Aviation has secured a total of €1.42bn in pre-orders, while fine tuning its technology simultaneously.

The SkyClinic will be capable of deploying advanced medical surgeries directly to your doorstep, to any disaster zone, conflict region, or underserved community on Earth. Requiring as little as a 50-metre landing field, the SkyClinic can position itself at the doorstep of those who need it most, without necessarily the need for runways, helipads, or existing infrastructure.

Equipped with state-of-the-art medical systems, the SkyClinic supports both traditional onboard surgical teams, with full operating theatre capability for surgeons and nurses, and up to six patients and next-generation remote robotic surgery equipment via integrated AI-powered surgical platforms.



This hybrid medical model ensures that no matter the location or available personnel, life-saving procedures can be performed anywhere in the world, and many more lives can be saved.

Central to the SkyClinic's capabilities is a major propulsion engineering breakthrough achieved by the LYTE Aviation technical team. Through the development of its proprietary PowerBridge, an advanced powertrain improving efficiency of their combustion and electric engines, fueled by fuel cells and liquid hydrogen, LYTE has reduced the aircraft's engine count from eight to four, dramatically simplifying the powertrain architecture, reducing overall weight, increasing reliability, and cutting maintenance costs for operators.

Ascendance Secures €12.2M Investment And Begins Scaling Up its STERNA Hybrid-Electric Propulsion System

Toulouse startup Ascendance has announced a €12.2M investment through France's France 2030 - Première Usine (First Factory) program, allowing the company to move from prototype development of its STERNA Hybrid Pack propulsion system, to series production.

Announced yesterday (Wednesday), the four-year funding commitment also enables Ascendance to move forward with its battery solution, with assembly of its ATEA aircraft to follow. The investment represents a decisive industrial milestone for structuring a decarbonized and sovereign aerospace sector in Europe.

Moving forward, the company will structure its production capabilities and accelerate investment to meet growing demand in both civil and defense markets.

Jean-Christophe Lambert, CEO of Ascendance, said: "Tomorrow's aviation is not decreed—it is built, industrialized, and it must happen here, in Europe. With France 2030 support, we cross a major milestone. This funding enables us to move from prototype to production. It is a decisive step in building a European hybrid-electric sector capable of responding to both decarbonization and sovereignty imperatives."

Beyond the funding, Ascendance says this decision signals strong support from France for a next-generation aviation sector—one that is both sustainable and sovereign.

It says the decision also validates the technological choice Ascendance has pursued since its founding in 2018; that hybrid-electric is recognized as the most credible pathway for

decarbonizing civil aviation in the near and medium term, while meeting performance, endurance, and resilience requirements for defense applications.

At the core of this scaling: STERNA Hybrid Pack, the modular hybrid-electric propulsion system developed by Ascendance. Built on over four years of bench testing and protected by several patents, STERNA delivers significant reductions in fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions. The system combines next-generation batteries with proprietary energy management software called the Hybrid Operating System.

This system is designed to equip regional aircraft and defense drones alike. It forms the technological foundation for ATEA, a vertical takeoff and landing aircraft currently in the final integration phase—a low-carbon alternative to light helicopters for regional transport (passengers, cargo, medical, security missions).



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Main news - Europe

Vertical Aerospace completes two historic milestones in its flight test campaign

Vertical Aerospace achieved two significant milestones last month, when it achieved piloted thrustborne transition of a full-scale eVTOL aircraft and then followed up with a historic two-way piloted transition flight.

The first of these achievements happened on April 2nd, where Test Pilot Paul Stone flew the transition sequence at Vertical's Flight Test Centre at Cotswold Airport. The aircraft took off vertically before the front propellers tilted forward, enabling a smooth acceleration into wingborne flight as the rear propellers stowed, followed by a conventional runway landing.

This is the most significant technical landmark in Vertical's ten-year history and represents the completion of the first half of the two-way transition sequence.

Then on April 14th, Vertical successfully completed a historic two-way piloted transition flight.



The company became the second globally to complete a two-way piloted transition flight in a full-scale tiltrotor eVTOL aircraft, and the first to do so under civil aviation Design Organisation Approval regulatory oversight.

Chief Test Pilot Simon Davies completed the flight, transitioning from vertical take-off to wingborne cruise and back to vertical landing, all in one continuous flight. This milestone builds on Vertical's thrustborne transition on April 2nd and marks the completion of two-way transition, the defining capability of eVTOL aviation.

To put this into perspective, transition flight validates the technology which will enable Valo, Vertical's commercial aircraft, to take off vertically from a city-centre vertiport or rooftop with passengers, fly efficiently at speed like an airplane, and land vertically at its destination without a runway.

The company says unlocks planned real-world routes such as Canary Wharf to Heathrow or JFK to Manhattan, making them operationally and commercially viable.



Manna Air Delivery Raises \$50Million Series B as It Announces Plans to Expand in the United States

Manna Air Delivery has announced a \$50 million funding round to scale its proven operations further in the United States and Europe.

The company has completed over 250,000 successful deliveries and is certified by EASA, setting the global benchmark for drone logistics. Partnering with both global giants and local businesses, Manna delivers a wide variety of goods in just minutes, empowering businesses and significantly reducing carbon emissions.

Investors in this round include ARK Invest, known for backing companies such as OpenAI, Anthropic, Tesla and SpaceX, the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF) and Schooner Capital, alongside existing investors Coca-Cola HBC and Molten Ventures. The round brings the company's total funding to \$110 million.

Bobby Healy, Manna Air Delivery's CEO and Founder, said: "Manna Air Delivery is dedicated to improving the world by making lightning-fast suburban deliveries affordable, accessible, green and safe. Our technology reduces road congestion, cuts emissions and helps local businesses deliver everyday goods to communities faster."

"We've proven the technology and the economics of autonomous delivery. On daily deliveries in suburban areas we are a world leader. Now it's about scale."

Recently Manna announced a partnership with Uber, adding to its existing partnerships with Deliveroo, Just Eat and DoorDash.

Customers can order through the Manna app or directly via its partner platforms, with autonomous unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) delivering everyday items to suburban communities within minutes.

Through these integrations, Manna is positioning itself as a core infrastructure provider for the next generation of mobility and instant logistics.

For customers, Manna's UAV technology delivers orders in under three minutes while reducing road congestion and cutting CO₂ emissions by up to 85 per cent compared with road-based delivery.



Main news - Asia-Pacific

SkyDrive Becomes Japan's First eVTOL Developer to Earn "Approved Design Organization" (ADO) Certification

SkyDrive has officially received Approved Design Organization (ADO) certification from the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB), under the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT).

The milestone makes SkyDrive the first eVTOL aircraft developer in Japan to achieve this certification. The ADO status serves as official public proof that SkyDrive possesses rigorous quality control and safety management systems regarding its capabilities for aircraft design and post-design inspection.

This certification is equivalent to the Design Organisation Approval (DOA) issued by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

As of April 2026, SkyDrive joins an elite group of only six companies in Japan, including major long-standing aerospace manufacturers, to hold this certification.

Arnaud Coville, Chief Technology Officer, SkyDrive, said: "Earning ADO certification is a testament to the relentless dedication of our entire team. From our engineers to our quality management specialists, we have built a world-class safety culture from the ground up.

"This is a watershed moment for the social implementation of eVTOLs in Japan. We will continue to collaborate with regulatory authorities and our partners to accelerate the realization of a safe, trusted, and accessible air mobility revolution."



The Approved Organization System is a framework in which the MLIT audits and certifies whether an organization's capability to conduct its operations meets specific standards.

Within this system, the ADO certification is granted to organizations that possess the systems necessary to properly execute aircraft design and post-design inspections. By obtaining this certification, organizations are authorized to conduct a portion of the inspections typically performed by the government, thereby streamlining the development process.

AutoFlight transports spring tea in trial using its CarryAll two-ton class eVTOL aircraft

AutoFlight has successfully transported spring tea over mountainous terrain in China in just 37 minutes, using its autonomous and unmanned CarryAll eVTOL aircraft.

The trial took place between Anshun and Guiyang, two cities in the Chinese province of Guizhou which are approximately 120km apart. The 37-minute journey is a significant improvement over road transportation in the region, where winding mountain roads make timely delivery a persistent challenge.

Following the eVTOL air transfer, the fresh tea was transported by a logistics company via high-speed rail for long-haul delivery from Guiyang to Shanghai, covering a distance of nearly 2,000 kilometers.

The integrated "eVTOL + high-speed rail" model enabled same-day delivery, bringing freshly picked tea from remote western mountain plantations to consumers in major eastern cities within 24 hours, preserving optimal freshness and flavor.

Li Yun, Chief Commercial Officer of AutoFlight, said: This innovative 'autonomous eVTOL air transfer + high-speed rail trunk line' model breaks logistics bottlenecks in high-altitude mountainous areas.

"AutoFlight will join hands with more partners to extend this efficient, green autonomous cargo model to more specialty agricultural producing areas. This

will help more high-quality local agricultural products reach national markets quickly, driving regional industrial upgrading and rural revitalization."

The CarryAll (V2000CG) is the world's first 2-ton-class eVTOL aircraft to obtain Type Certificate (TC), Production Certificate (PC) and Airworthiness Certificate (AC) from the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC). As a fully autonomous unmanned cargo aircraft, it boasts exceptional performance for a wide range of logistics scenarios.

In addition, its 6-seat passenger eVTOL model V2000EM Prosperity is currently undergoing civil aviation airworthiness certification by the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) and has entered the Phase IV compliance verification stage.



Later this year, *eVTOL Insights* will publish two further Special Reports which will shine a spotlight on the people shaping the future of Advanced Air Mobility.

Designed to inform, inspire and provoke discussion across the global industry, these reports go beyond headlines to deliver insight, analysis and perspective you won't find elsewhere.

The **Women in AAM Special Report** will be published in **July**, which will celebrate the incredible women driving progress across eVTOL manufacturing, infrastructure, regulation, investment, operations and technology.

Later in the year, **Ones to Watch**, published in **December**, will turn its focus to the individuals, companies and ideas set to define the next phase of AAM. This forward-looking report will identify emerging leaders, disruptive startups, breakthrough technologies and pivotal projects that are gaining momentum beneath the surface.

Together, these Special Reports reinforce *eVTOL Insights*' commitment to thoughtful, independent journalism and deep sector knowledge.

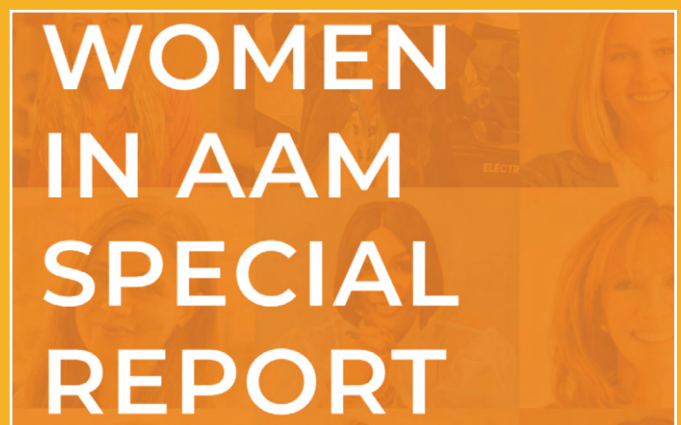
Keep an eye out later this year as *eVTOL Insights* continues to tell the stories shaping the future of flight.

Self-nominations will be accepted, and all you need to do is send an email to jason@evtolinsights.com with the following information:

- Full name, job title and company of the person being nominated
- Which Special Report the nomination should be considered for
- A suitable headshot picture
- Company logo (optional)
- A summary of the job role and why you/they should be included

We are also selling A4 adverts for any company interested in wanting exposure and awareness.

For more information, please email Sam Bromley, Sales Manager at eVTOL Insights (sam@evtolinsights.com)



Main news – Middle East

World's first commercial vertiport by Dubai International Airport reaches technical completion

The world's first commercial vertiport situated by Dubai International Airport has reached technical completion and is now ready to handle eVTOL aircraft.

Spanning four floors with a footprint of 3,100m², the vertiport integrates the main passenger terminal and central flight operations all under one roof. Featuring two dedicated take-off and landing areas, it is equipped with the latest technologies and infrastructure specifically tailored for eVTOL aircraft.

This includes the Joby Aviation developed Global Electric Aviation Charging System ("GEACS"), fast-charging equipment, the first to ever be fitted at a commercial vertiport. Ultra-fast charging is central to operating air taxis at an accessible price, and is essential to the success of Dubai's future air taxi network.

The vertiport can also handle conventional helicopter traffic, using a pioneering hybrid regulatory framework developed in partnership with the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA).

With a view to future network expansion and full network utilisation the vertiport is designed for high-capacity operations,

capable of handling up to 170,000 passengers annually and up to 42,000 aircraft movements.

The vertiport also provides excellent intermodal connectivity, being directly accessible to the Emirates Metro Station and featuring an integrated multistorey car park. The first node in Dubai's air taxi network, the vertiport by Dubai International Airport is the network's flagship vertiport, and will act as the primary hub.

A full tour and demonstration of the vertiport was provided to His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Chairman of the Executive Council of Dubai.



Skyportz to bring its AeroBerm vertiport technology to Oman in new partnership with AeroVecto Aviation Services

AeroVecto Aviation Services (AVAS) has entered into an agreement with Skyportz to introduce and test its AeroBerm™ vertipad technology in the Sultanate of Oman. The partnership marks the first step towards evaluating next-generation ground infrastructure for Advanced Air Mobility in the country.

Skyportz says AeroBerm™, part of the company's patented vertipad system, is designed to address one of the most significant challenges in eVTOL aircraft operations: managing downwash and outwash safely and efficiently. AeroBerm™ is designed to ameliorate downwash and outwash to protect people, other aircraft and surrounding ground equipment.

For Oman, these characteristics have direct relevance. The ability to reduce turbulence impact and footprint requirements supports integration of infrastructure into dense urban areas, smart cities, logistics hubs, industrial zones and remote sites where conventional helipad designs may be impractical.

This controlled airflow enables safer operations, reduces risk to nearby property, and allows vertipads to be placed in more confined or commercially viable locations.

AVAS will evaluate these benefits under local conditions, including heat, wind patterns, and operational constraints unique to the Gulf region.

Fahad Al Riyami, CEO of AVAS, emphasized the importance of this

collaboration for Oman's emerging AAM ecosystem. He said: "Our focus is to understand what works in our environment, practically, safely, and sustainably. AeroBerm™ offers a thoughtful approach to vertipad design, and this agreement allows us to study its performance in real-world Omani settings."

Additionally, the partnership will focus on technical exchange, site assessments, and controlled testing of the AeroBerm™ system, supporting broader national efforts to evaluate advanced mobility solutions as Oman explores future-ready infrastructure options.

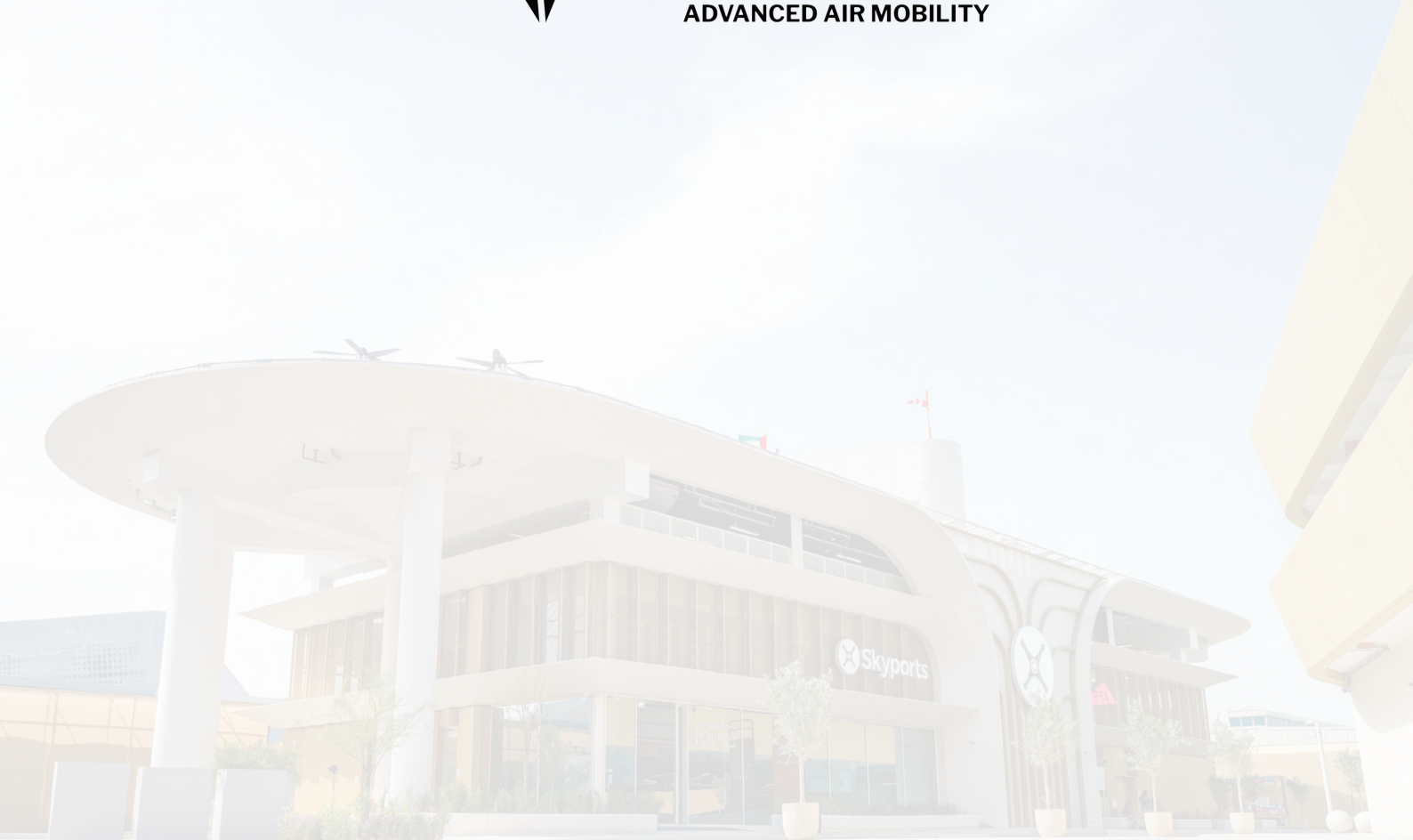
The findings from this work will help inform how such technologies could be adapted to local conditions and integrated into the country's long-term mobility landscape.





eVTOL INSIGHTS

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF
ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY



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