



eVTOL
INSIGHTS

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF
ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY

POWER BOOK 2026

RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE
AND ACHIEVEMENT IN THE
GLOBAL ADVANCED AIR
MOBILITY MARKET

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INTRODUCTION



The Advanced Air Mobility market continues to unfold, as cities and regions prepare to embrace the hum of eVTOL aircraft and regional networks exploring hybrid-electric range to bridge gaps in transportation infrastructure. Innovators are redefining what it means to move people and goods safely, efficiently and sustainably. In this pivotal moment, the individuals and organizations leading this evolution deserve both recognition and celebration.

The eVTOL Insights Powerbook aims to do just that.

Within these pages, we bring together profiles, thought leadership, and milestone achievements from across the global AAM ecosystem, from North America to Europe, Asia and Australia, highlighting the visionaries whose technical expertise, entrepreneurial courage, and regulatory foresight are shaping the future of aviation.

These leaders help invent aircraft, create framework standards and operational models that will determine how societies integrate urban air mobility into everyday life.

Some pioneers are developing fully electric urban air taxis optimized for quiet, zero-emission city transport. Others are charting regional corridors with hybrid-electric designs capable of long-range missions, cargo delivery, and critical emergency services.

Still others are building infrastructure, digital platforms and air traffic management systems that will enable the safe and scalable deployment of eVTOL aircraft fleets. Across continents and disciplines, these innovators share a common

purpose: to accelerate the adoption of new mobility while prioritizing safety, sustainability, and accessibility.

This Powerbook highlights not only the achievements of companies but also the human ingenuity behind them. From founders and CEOs who dare to challenge traditional aerospace conventions, to technical leaders translating visionary concepts into certified aircraft, the global AAM community thrives on collaboration, cross-border knowledge exchange, and a relentless focus on execution.

Each profile in this volume serves as a testament to the technical excellence, strategic insight, and unwavering commitment required to bring flying vehicles from prototype to market.

We celebrate these industry leaders not just for what they build, but for what they envision: a safer, cleaner, and more accessible way to move through our cities and regions. It is their vision, and their relentless pursuit of innovation, that forms the foundation of the global Advanced Air Mobility ecosystem.

JASON PRITCHARD

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
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YVONNE WINTER

CEO, FLYNOW ARABIA AND CO-FOUNDER OF FLYNOW AVIATION

As CEO of FlyNow Arabia and Co-Founder of Austria-based FlyNow Aviation GmbH, Yvonne Winter plays a central role in bringing the company's eCopter technology to life.

With over 25 years of experience in C-level leadership roles, Yvonne has a unique blend of entrepreneurial grit and strategic vision. Her background spans logistics, real estate, and wholesale and engineering companies, with a strong focus on business transformation and sustainability.

In 2019, she co-founded FlyNow Aviation with Jürgen Greil. She now leads the strategic expansion into the Middle East as CEO of FlyNow Arabia, the company's Saudi-based entity.

Last year, the company secured a partnership with the Saudi Aviation Club and, in September, a major investment that will enable the establishment of a regulatory sandbox testbed in the Kingdom. These milestones significantly accelerate Saudi Arabia's ambitions for sustainable aerial mobility and mark a major step in FlyNow's entry into the Saudi market.

Yvonne is especially known for her ability to connect people and ideas, and for turning visionary concepts into real-world

impact. At FlyNow, she drives strategic scaling, international expansion, regulatory alignment, and global brand positioning.

Under her leadership, FlyNow is bringing its modular eVTOL solution to market — a commercially viable, zero-emission unmanned aircraft capable of carrying up to 200 kg with ultra-low noise and energy usage, and operating costs comparable to a taxi ride. The aircraft is designed for multiple applications, including cargo transport, firefighting, medevac, and air taxi services, offering a highly adaptable solution for urban and regional mobility needs.

An influential voice in the global mobility space, Yvonne has been a featured speaker at prestigious events including LEAP, Make it in the Emirates Forum, Aviators Africa, Fortune Most Powerful Women International, and the Autonomous E-Mobility Forum. Her work continues to shape the future of clean, accessible air transportation.





ANDERS NILSSON

MANAGING PARTNER, REED SMITH MIDDLE EAST

Anders Nilsson is a leading legal and strategic advisor in the aviation, Advanced Air Mobility and future transport sectors, with more than 25 years of international experience and over a decade spent practising in the Middle East.

Appointed Managing Partner of Reed Smith's Middle East offices in January 2026, Nilsson oversees the firm's operations in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and its newly opened Riyadh office.

In this role, he plays a central part in shaping the firm's regional growth strategy while advising some of the world's most influential aviation, aerospace, and mobility companies. His practice spans public and private M&A, joint ventures, strategic investments, and complex cross-border transactions, with a particular focus on GCC–Africa dealmaking.

He is widely recognised for his deep sector expertise in aviation and advanced air mobility, where he advises leading global OEMs, operators, investors, and government entities. His client roster includes key players in the eVTOL and AAM ecosystem such as Archer, alongside major aerospace and defence companies operating across the Middle East, Europe, and Africa.

Nilsson also regularly advises GCC governments on aviation policy, regulatory frameworks, and strategic development initiatives, as well as international aerospace and defence companies on UAE government contracting and offset programmes.

Born in Sweden and based in Abu Dhabi since 2014, Nilsson brings a unique blend of regional knowledge and global perspective. He plays a key role in advising on the legal, commercial, and regulatory foundations required to bring next-generation air mobility solutions to market across the Middle East and beyond.

Before Reed Smith, Nilsson was formerly at Bird & Bird, where he served as Managing Partner for the UAE and Head of the Corporate and Aviation practices in the Middle East.



MARC ALLEN

CEO, ELECTRA

Marc Allen is the Chief Executive Officer of Electra.aero. At Electra, Marc is leading the charge in developing hybrid-electric Ultra Short aircraft to define the next level of seamless air travel connectivity.

Through direct aviation, Electra is bringing air travel closer to where people live, work, and play – without airports, emissions, or noise.

Marc joined Electra after a distinguished career at The Boeing Company, where he held several key leadership roles, including Chief Strategy Officer and Senior Vice President for Strategy and Corporate Development.

He led the \$5 billion customer finance business before spending nearly a decade on Boeing's Executive Council, where he served as President of Boeing International and oversaw critical enterprise-wide functions.

As head of all venture businesses, he led Wisk Aero's restructuring and full acquisition, focusing on the future of autonomous flight and serving as Chairman.

Other roles at Boeing included President of the Embraer Partnership, President of Boeing China, and General Counsel of Boeing International.





MEGHA BHATIA

CCO, EVE AIR MOBILITY

Megha Bhatia is a seasoned aviation executive and strategic commercial leader driving global growth and customer engagement at Eve Air Mobility. She leads Eve's global sales strategy, market intelligence customer contracts and government and regulatory engagement from the company's headquarters in Melbourne, Florida.

With more than two decades of experience in aerospace and business aviation, Megha brings a proven track record in commercial leadership and cross-functional growth initiatives.

Since joining Eve, Megha has been instrumental in positioning the company for commercial scale-up as it transitions from letters of intent (LOIs) into firm orders across international markets. Her role bridges customer acquisition, ecosystem partnerships, and regulatory advocacy — all key to advancing Eve's go-to-market execution amid a rapidly evolving eVTOL landscape.

In addition to her corporate leadership roles, Bhatia is active within aviation industry forums and advisory boards, including involvement with the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Business Leadership Board and the National Aircraft Finance Association, underscoring her commitment to shaping the future of aerospace commerce and workforce leadership.

Megha holds a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering and an MBA, both from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. She began her career in technical and commercial functions, bringing a unique blend of engineering insight and business acumen to complex aerospace markets



JAVIER ESPUCH

CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICER, EMBENTION

Javier Espuch has been actively involved in Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) projects since 2010, with a strong specialization in safety-critical avionics and certifiable autonomous systems for eVTOL and UAV platforms.

In his role as Chief Business Development Officer at Embention, he leads the sales, marketing, and technical support teams, effectively bridging cutting-edge aerospace technology with real market and operational needs to accelerate the adoption of autonomous aviation solutions.

At Embention, Javier works closely with AAM developers throughout the full lifecycle of their programs, from early architecture definition to compliance with key aerospace certification standards such as DO-178C, DO-254, DO-160, and other applicable airworthiness requirements.

His work is centered on reliability-driven system architectures, supporting the integration of fail-safe and fault-tolerant solutions, including redundant flight control systems and certifiable hardware for safety-critical applications.





TOMOHIRO FUKUZAWA

CEO OF SKYDRIVE

Tomohiro Fukuzawa is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of SkyDrive Inc., the pioneering Japanese eVTOL developer advancing electric vertical take off and landing aircraft for urban and advanced air mobility.

A graduate of the University of Tokyo's Faculty of Engineering, Fukuzawa began his career in the automotive industry with Toyota Motor Corporation, where he was responsible for global parts procurement before transitioning into aerospace entrepreneurship.

In 2018, Fukuzawa founded SkyDrive with the mission of "leading the once in a century mobility revolution," aiming to make flying vehicles a routine part of daily life. Under his leadership, the company has grown from early concept development into a full eVTOL aircraft manufacturer headquartered in Toyota City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.

Fukuzawa has positioned SkyDrive at the forefront of Japan's Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) ecosystem. He serves as a member of a government led task force shaping future regulatory frameworks for eVTOL and AAM in Japan, reflecting his role as a key industry voice in emerging policy and safety standards.

Under his direction, SkyDrive's flagship aircraft, SKYDRIVE (SD 05), entered production in March 2024 at a Suzuki Motor Corporation facility — a significant step toward scalable manufacturing.

In 2025, the SKYDRIVE completed a high profile public demonstration during the Osaka Kansai Expo, showcasing the platform's potential to global audiences.

The company has also submitted its type certification application for SKYDRIVE to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) via Japan's Civil Aviation Bureau, reflecting Fukuzawa's global regulatory strategy.

Fukuzawa has led SkyDrive's strategic expansion into international markets and partnerships. In 2025, SkyDrive announced a collaboration with Indonesian operator PT Whitesky Aviation to explore eVTOL operations and infrastructure deployment, signaling his commitment to accelerating regional adoption of AAM solutions beyond Japan.

Throughout his tenure, Fukuzawa has articulated a clear vision for AAM: integrating eVTOL aircraft into everyday transportation networks to offer quiet, emission-free mobility that complements existing ground systems.

His leadership blends engineering insight with commercial strategy, emphasizing safe certification pathways, domestic manufacturing capacity, and international market engagement.





BILLY THALHEIMER AND MIKE KLINKER

CO-FOUNDERS OF REGENT

Billy is the CEO and Co-Founder of REGENT. He leads a successful team who have accumulated a commercial backlog of Seaglider vessel orders worth more than \$10 billion, secured a \$15 million U.S. Marine Corps contract, and raised over \$100 million from world-class investors.

Prior to co-founding REGENT, Billy honed his skills in human-crewed electric aircraft development at Boeing

subsidiary Aurora Flight Sciences, where he was responsible for aircraft design, program management, and business development for Boeing's portfolio of future air mobility solutions.

Billy holds a B.S. and M.S. in Aerospace Engineering from MIT, where he was a competitive sailor and is a licensed aerobatic pilot.

Mike has led the company's efforts in developing the Seaglider, overseeing REGENT's successful demonstration of the first foil-to-wing transition of the quarter-scale Seaglider prototype and managing the integration and testing of the full-scale Seaglider prototype.

Prior to co-founding REGENT, Mike held roles at Raptor Labs, MIT Lincoln Labs, and Aurora Flight Sciences, where he designed and operated cutting-edge autonomous and piloted vehicles. Mike holds a B.S. and M.S. in Aerospace Engineering from MIT, specializing in flight controls systems and complex systems integrations, and is an experienced mariner and helicopter pilot.



ERIC BARTSCH

CO-FOUNDER AND CEO OF VERDEGO AERO

Eric is CEO and Co-Founder of VerdeGo and is the architect of the company's business model. His background includes executive general management experience at \$250M+ businesses along with extensive expertise commercializing new innovations both within and outside the aerospace industry.

He led development, flight testing, and marketing of one of the early battery-electric aircraft programs, and he was responsible for the first electric-aircraft formation demonstration team at AirVenture 2013. Eric holds more than 20 US Patents, and is rated as a commercial, instrument, airplane, and glider pilot with flight experience piloting electric aircraft.

Eric earned his BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Colorado and his MS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois.





ADRIANO DI PIETRO

CEO, AMSL AERO

Dr Adriano Di Pietro is a globally recognised aerospace executive and deep-tech innovator with nearly 20 years of international experience spanning aerospace, defence, and automotive systems.

He has helped scale multiple high-tech ventures across Australia, the US, and Europe. He holds a PhD in advanced aerospace manufacturing technology and a degree in engineering.

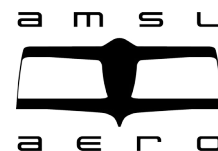
Most recently, Dr Di Pietro served as CEO (Interim) of the Australian Air Mobility Cooperative Research Centre (AAM CRC), where he brought together Australia's advanced air mobility industry as a key driver of Australia's future aviation system.

Concurrently, as Director of the Aerospace Innovation Research (AIR) Hub at Swinburne University of Technology, he led an expert team supporting the growth of Australia's uncrewed air systems (UAS) and advanced air mobility development and manufacturing industry with significant development in zero-emission hydrogen-powered flight.

Previously, Dr Di Pietro held key roles at XTEK (now HighCom Group) as Chief Technology Officer, where he led the commercialisation of aerospace and defence technologies. He was also one of the first employees at Zoox, the Silicon Valley-based autonomous vehicle company acquired by Amazon, and held leadership roles at Quickstep Technologies, a leading aerospace composites manufacturer in Australia and Germany.

AMSL Aero is an Australian zero-emissions aircraft developer founded in 2017. The company is headquartered in Bankstown, Sydney, Australia, with flight test facilities in regional New South Wales.

AMSL Aero's world-class team has international experience across all aspects of aerospace design, flight testing, manufacturing, certification, and aviation business operations. AMSL Aero is backed by private investors including IP Group Australia, Telstra Super, Host Plus and StB Capital Partners and the Australian Government.





FAHAD AL RIYAMI

CEO OF AEROVECTO

Fahad Al Riyami is the Chief Executive Officer and Founder of AeroVecto Aviation Services (AVAS), a pioneering advanced air mobility (AAM) company based in Muscat, Oman.

He leads the organisation’s strategic vision to accelerate the adoption and development of next-generation aviation technologies in the Sultanate and the broader region.

Under his leadership, AVAS offers a comprehensive suite of services including operational support, infrastructure planning and development, strategic advisory services, and maintenance solutions tailored to the evolving AAM ecosystem.

The company has entered into key strategic partnerships that support both industry innovation and local capacity building.

Examples include collaborations with international infrastructure and planning firms — aimed at designing vertiport networks and optimising routes for advanced air mobility operations — and efforts to integrate predictive maintenance technologies into eVTOL operations through cooperation with global tech partners.

Fahad has also steered AVAS into academic and research collaborations, such as memoranda of understanding with educational institutions in Oman to jointly explore applied research, student engagement, and skill development in the AAM sector.



YON WUI NG

FOUNDER AND CEO OF TCAB TECH

Yon Wui NG is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of TCab Tech, a Shanghai-based eVTOL aircraft developer shaping the future of urban and regional air mobility.

He leads the company’s global strategy and product development as it advances its flagship five-seat tilt-rotor eVTOL, the E20, toward certification and commercial deployment.

A seasoned aerospace engineer and entrepreneur with over 20 years of international experience, Yon has built a career at the intersection of advanced aircraft design, manufacturing, and strategic growth.



Before founding TCab Tech in 2021, he held senior roles in both established and emerging aviation firms, including Head of Engineering for Airbus China, where he oversaw critical R&D programs, and Vice General Manager at Geely Terrafugia, focusing on eVTOL aircraft development. His expertise spans systems engineering, project leadership, supply chain development, and global certification pathways.

Under his leadership, TCab Tech has rapidly progressed from early prototype tests to major developmental milestones. In late 2025, Yon himself piloted the E20’s first manned flight test, underscoring his hands-on commitment to both safety and technology advancement.





ADRIAN SCHMIDT, RAKESH GAONKAR AND PAYAL SATISH

SARLA AVIATION

Sarla Aviation is an Indian eVTOL aircraft developer headquartered in Bengaluru and building affordable, high payload air taxis targeting urban air mobility in India and emerging markets. The company blends global aerospace experience with local execution, and carries the name of aviation pioneer Sarla Thakral, in homage to India's first female pilot.

Adrian Schmidt is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Sarla Aviation, where he is leading the mission to build mass urban air mobility for a Viksit Bharat. Guided by the belief that civilization is ultimately constrained by its ability to move, Adrian is focused on democratizing access to opportunity by transforming how people travel across cities and regions.

His leadership combines long-term national vision with disciplined execution — positioning India not just as a user of advanced aviation technologies, but as a global leader in developing and controlling them.

Prior to founding Sarla Aviation, Adrian worked in Product & Operations Design at Lilium in Germany, contributing to regional air mobility systems during a pivotal phase of growth in the eVTOL industry. Earlier, he was part of Volkswagen's automotive design efforts in Los Angeles, contributing to the development of electric vehicle platforms under the Volkswagen ID program.

Rakesh Gaonkar is the Co Founder and Chief Technology Officer of Sarla Aviation, where he is leading the development of India's next-generation hybrid-electric eVTOL aircraft to redefine urban mobility. Driven by a mission to position India as a global leader in advanced air

mobility, he is focused on building scalable, manufacturing-ready aerospace products that solve real-world urban challenges.

With more than 13 years of experience in CAD and Production Engineering across the automotive and aviation industries, Rakesh brings deep expertise in taking products from concept to series production. Prior to founding Sarla Aviation, he was a founding member of Lilium's Product Design Team in Germany, contributing to the development of the Lilium Jet from early concept through pre-series production.

Payal is the Chief Commercial Officer at Sarla Aviation, where she leads the company's growth strategy in Urban Air Mobility (UAM) and next-generation regional aviation across India.

Working at the intersection of mobility, sustainability, and innovation, she is focused on accelerating the adoption of VTOL and STOL aircraft solutions for commercial and defense applications.

Her role spans corporate strategy, regulatory engagement, strategic partnerships, market expansion, and go-to-market planning. Payal collaborates closely with global OEMs, aviation authorities, infrastructure partners, and technology stakeholders to build scalable and sustainable aviation ecosystems.

She drives market intelligence, evaluates emerging business models, and aligns product development with long-term commercial objectives to position Sarla Aviation at the forefront of India's aerial mobility transformation.



GARETH WHATMORE

CEO OF OPEN SKIES NETWORK

Gareth Whatmore is CEO of Open Skies Network, a UK-based company focused on enabling next-generation regional air mobility and decarbonised aviation infrastructure. He has a background in town and country planning specialising in sustainable transport and has held leadership roles driving innovation in drone operations and aviation connectivity.

As the head of Open Skies Network, Whatmore champions the development of shared airspace infrastructure, landing zones and support systems that accelerate the adoption of electric and autonomous aircraft, including eVTOL aircraft, amphibious electric aircraft and delivery drones - particularly in regional and coastal environments in the UK, Europe and GCC.

Under his leadership, Open Skies Network has secured strategic funding and partnered with asset owners, local authorities, aerospace partners and regulatory bodies to implement a Network of locations for New Aviation whilst exploring how clean air mobility solutions can enhance connectivity, reduce emissions and support local economies.

Whatmore has also renowned for masterminding the first trials and commercial drone activity for Royal Mail as introducing medical and cargo drone services integrated with health and logistics networks like the NHS in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, highlighting how unmanned aircraft can be embedded into real-world transport systems to solve geographic and infrastructure challenges.

Before founding and leading Open Skies Network, he led or contributed to earlier initiatives including Open Skies Cornwall, Scotland's First DronePort: Mercury DronePort, UAV CV19 Emergency Airbridge, REFMAP project as well as Founding, Ordnance Survey backed, DronePrep (a flight planning tool for drone pilots), reflecting his long-standing engagement with low-altitude airspace innovation and sustainable aviation planning.





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 VOLOCOPTER



SHUAI FENG

CTO, EHang

Shuai Feng joined EHang in July 2014 as a core member of the founding team. Under Mr. Hu's strategic guidance and technical philosophy, he has played a critical role in and led the development of, multiple pilotless human-carrying eVTOL products, including the EH184, the EH216 S, and the VT35, as well as the GD series aerial formation UAVs.

In addition, as the Company has entered a new phase of commercialization, Mr. Feng has in recent years taken on key responsibilities in building EHang's procurement and supply chain management systems.

By strengthening upstream and downstream coordination, enhancing productization efficiency, and advancing deep industry-chain integration and regional ecosystem development, he has significantly enhanced EHang's capabilities for key components R&D and scaled manufacturing. Currently, Mr. Feng also serves as the Company's Compliance Officer, continuously upholding EHang's development principles of "safety, compliance, innovation, and sustainability" through his cross-functional leadership roles.

Focusing on the Company's core AAM strategy, he has

guided the team through multiple breakthroughs in key unmanned aerial vehicle ("UAV") and electric vertical take-off and landing ("eVTOL") aircraft technologies and certifications, laying a strong technological foundation and establishing EHang's industry-leading position.

Mr. Feng graduated from Tsinghua University in Automation major, where he specialized in UAV technology and was awarded the Grand Prize in the University's prestigious 29th "Challenge Cup" competition, among other honors.

He currently serves as Deputy Director of the Tsinghua-EHang Joint Research Institute for Low-Altitude Aviation Technology, Deputy Secretary General of the Aerospace, Aviation, and Smart Manufacturing Committee of the Tsinghua University Guangzhou Alumni Association, and Secretary-General of the Tsinghua University Future Robotics Interest Group.

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GUILLAUME BEAUCHAMP

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF AIRCRAFT DEVELOPMENT, WISK

Guillaume leads Wisk's Generation 6 program and the team that achieved the First Flight of the world's first all-electric, autonomous, four-passenger air taxi on December 16, 2025.

This milestone marked a major step forward for the Gen 6 program as it moves Wisk closer to certification and commercial operations. Guillaume is responsible for all activities related to the development of the Gen 6 aircraft, while he also leads Wisk's Montreal Engineering Hub.

In this role, he oversees the engineering and aircraft development work required to advance Gen 6 toward certification and commercial operations.

In this role, Guillaume provides technical and programmatic leadership across the full aircraft development lifecycle, aligning engineering, certification, manufacturing, and safety disciplines to advance the Gen 6 aircraft.

He is responsible for setting technical strategy, managing risk, and ensuring design maturity as the program progresses toward certification and entry into service.

Guillaume brings more than 20 years of aerospace

experience to Wisk. He began his career in 2004 at Bombardier, where he held roles of increasing responsibility across conceptual design, certification, and sustaining programs. In 2017, he joined Mitsubishi Aircraft Corporation in Japan, where he spent three years as Chief Engineer for the M100 program.

Prior to joining Wisk, he was Vice President of Engineering and Manufacturing at Kitty Hawk, which later became part of Wisk.

Guillaume holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and a Graduate Certificate in Project Management of Complex Technical Projects from École Polytechnique de Montréal.

Guillaume's leadership at Wisk, along with his background in certified aircraft, complex engineering programs, and advanced air mobility, make him a strong candidate for this year's CTO Report.



DAVID BAUSEK

CTO, VOLOCOPTER

David Bausek serves as Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at Volocopter, where he leads the engineering, technical strategy, and certification paths for the company's next-generation eVTOL aircraft.

In a period of transformation for Volocopter, Bausek has become a pivotal figure in steering the organisation toward operational readiness and commercial launch of its aircraft platforms.

Bausek brings over 20 years of aerospace industry experience, with deep roots in aircraft design, systems integration, manufacturing, and certification strategy. He began his career at Diamond Aircraft, working initially as a manufacturing engineer and design engineer on fixed-wing aircraft such as the DA50. In that role, he progressed to Technical Project Lead for the DA62 — Diamond's flagship twin-engine model — guiding the aircraft through successful development and certification.

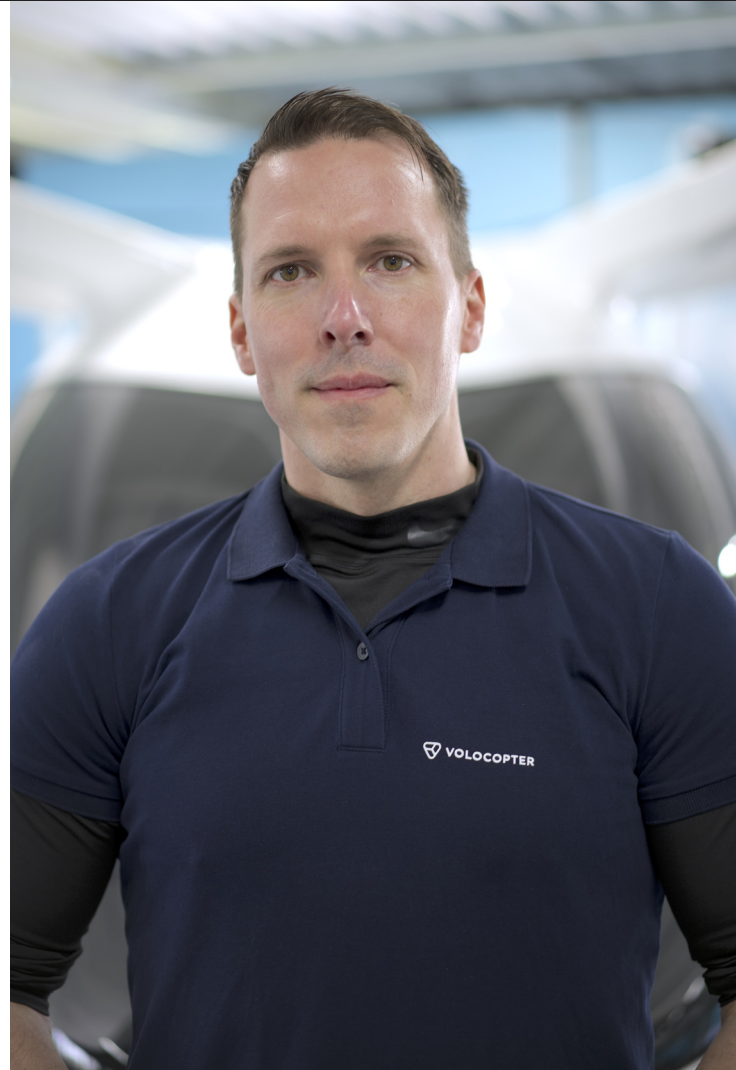
He then went on to manage Austrian production operations for Diamond as an Accountable Manager overseeing teams of more than 600 employees. Subsequently, Bausek expanded his leadership portfolio by establishing new manufacturing operations in China, acting from greenfield to full industrial capability.

In recent years prior to Volocopter, he served as CTO for Wanfeng Group, where he built global engineering teams and focused on strategic innovation around eVTOL and related aerospace products.

As CTO of Volocopter, Bausek is responsible for the company's engineering roadmap, technical execution, flight test campaigns, and alignment with regulatory certification requirements.

His leadership encompasses not only aircraft design and systems integration but also the transition from prototype development to commercial-scale, certifiable eVTOL platforms. He frequently represents Volocopter in industry initiatives aimed at advancing type certification and real-world validation programs for aircraft such as the VoloCity and VoloXPro.

Under Bausek's technical stewardship, Volocopter has



launched collaborative testing initiatives — including a 2026 European eVTOL sandbox program that replicates real-world flight operations to support certification readiness.

His emphasis on rigorous engineering discipline and operational validation reflects his commitment to turning the promise of urban air mobility into a tangible, safe, and sustainable transportation service.

Across his career, Bausek has championed systems-level integration, certification-driven development, and scalable production readiness — principles that are central to Volocopter's efforts to become a globally recognised provider of eVTOL air taxi and mobility solutions.

He continues to position the organisation to meet ambitious commercial timelines while ensuring compliance with evolving regulatory frameworks and industry safety standards.



PREDRAG KOVAČEVIĆ

CTO, ZURI

Predrag is Chief Technology Officer at Zuri, the Prague-based aerospace startup developing a hybrid-electric VTOL aircraft for Advanced Regional Air Mobility (ARAM).

In this role, he leads Zuri's engineering strategy, systems integration, and technology execution — steering development from early research phases toward full-scale demonstrators and certifiable aircraft.

Predrag brings more than 20 years of experience in aerospace propulsion and aircraft systems to Zuri, with a focus on multidisciplinary engineering, propulsion integration, and practical aviation system design. He serves as the technical lead for Zuri's architecture and flight systems, helping ensure that the company's hybrid VTOL platform combines ambitious performance goals with engineering rigor.

Under his leadership, the company is advancing its Technology Demonstrator 2.0 (TD 2.0) — a large scale aircraft designed to validate the integrated hybrid propulsion system, tiltrotor mechanics, and flight control laws needed for sustained vertical take off, transition, and cruise flight.

Predrag is closely involved in solving the real engineering challenges that define ARAM platforms — from propulsion and energy management to aerodynamic efficiency and safety-critical system integration.

In the company's leadership discourse, he has emphasised the importance of moving beyond theoretical designs to

practical, test-able systems, with clear pathways to certification and operational readiness.

Under Kovačević's technical direction, Zuri is building an aircraft that aims to bridge the gap between short-range urban air mobility and conventional regional aviation. Instead of focusing solely on short city-hop missions, Zuri's hybrid VTOL is designed for longer-range, point-to-point travel — combining vertical lift with efficient wing-borne cruise to serve regional corridors without relying on traditional runways.

This strategy places Zuri's technical roadmap squarely within the emerging Advanced Air Mobility ecosystem, where hybrid architectures are seen as a pragmatic bridge between current electric propulsion limitations and the demands of real-world regional flight operations.

Predrag's emphasis on engineering discipline and real-world validation reflects his broader belief that AAM success must be built on demonstrable performance data and a clear certification pathway. His leadership helps position Zuri as an innovator in hybrid VTOL design and key contributor to practical Advanced Air Mobility solutions capable of serving markets that extend far beyond dense urban cores.



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