Lessons Learned on BVLOS Operations in Austria - as an UAS Manufacturer and Operator

Alex FRAESS-EHRFELD CEO AIR6 SYSTEMS | AIRBORNE ROBOTICS



ARPAS-UK AGM and Annual Conference

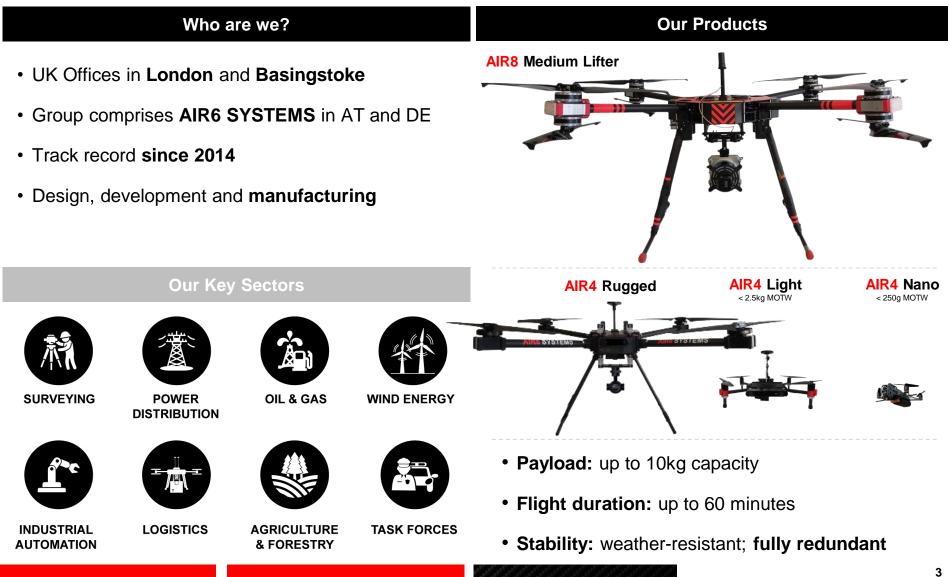
CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY, 2 March 2023

AIRBORNE ROBOTICS



- 1. Airborne Robotics Who are we?
- 2. Project AeroDrop
- **3.** BVLOS Legislation and Guidelines
- 4. Defining our BVLOS Test Track
- 5. Specific Cat. Application Submission
- 6. Project Outcome
- 7. Key Take-Aways

AIRBORNE ROBOTICS – MANUFACTURER OF DRONES FOCUS ON PROFESSIONAL APPLICATIONS



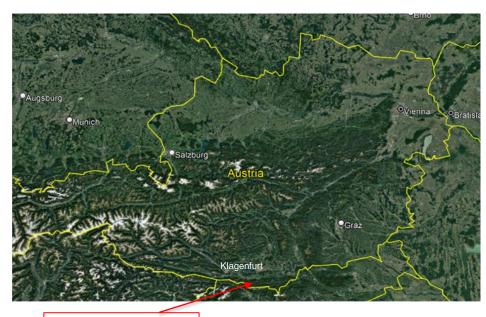
2.

PROJECT AERODROP

BVLOS DRONE RESCUE OPERATION IN ALPINE ENVIRONMENT

Background

- 70 (Alpine) emergency calls every year in micro region
- Sudden cardiac arrest is the key cause
- Alpine rescue teams drive time: 60 90 minutes, helicopters arrive within 25 30 minutes timeframe
- Patient needs to be treated within c. 6 8 minutes, in order to prevent sustained heath issues



Project and Aim

To test AED (defibrillator) drone delivery in real environment:

- AIR8 drone equipped with satcom module on stand-by
- Sudden cardiac arrest imitated: emergency call with location coordinates arrives centrally and is dispatched to drone operator
- Target coordinates are inserted into mission planning tool, auto flight for AED drop-off (round-trip with touch down function)
- **Bystanders at target location** assist with the medical procedures and apply AED
- **29 flights in total** 15 Red Cross and 14 coincidental / nottrained bystanders with ad-hoc instructions
- Technical, medical and logistics objectives were analysed

2024 Aim: Stationary BVLOS drone for remote rescue missions

BVLOS Test Area



3.

BVLOS LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

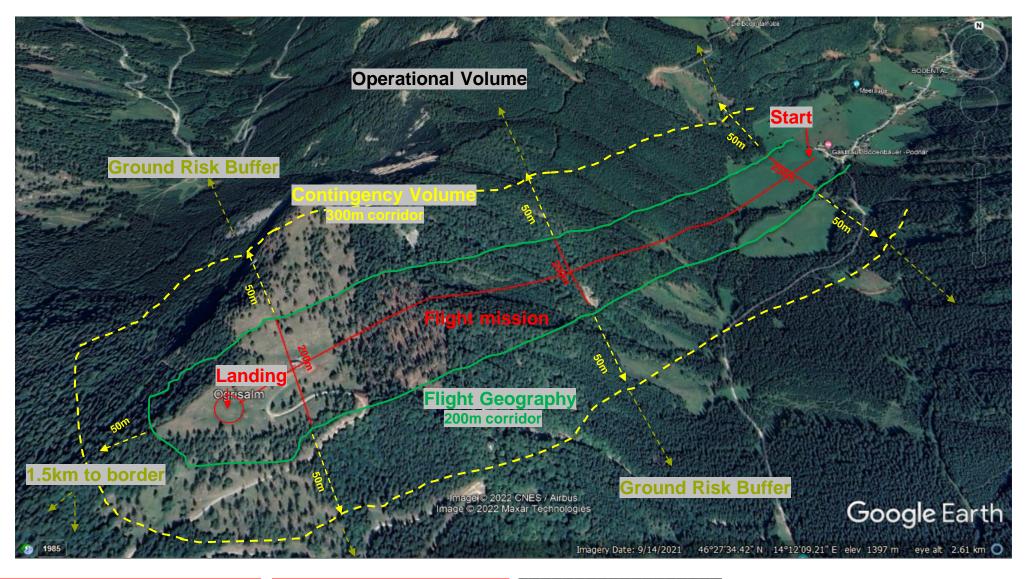
WHILE NO RULES WERE IN PLACE YET, AUSTRO CONTROL SUGGESTED ADHERENCE TO SORA



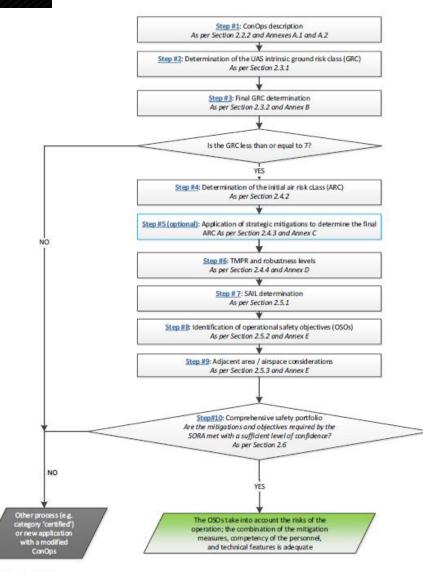
- Article 11 Rules for conducting an operational risk assessment
- Acceptable Means of Compliance (AMC1)
- SORA V2.0 (V2.5 in preparation)
- CONOPS (in future referred to "Operator Manual")

DEFINING OUR BVLOS TEST TRACK ("OPERATIONAL FOOTPRINT") 2 KM, NO VLOS ("OVER THE HORIZON"), NO DIRECT RADIO LINK / LIMITED LTE COVERAGE

Δ



5.1 SPECIFIC CAT. APPLICATION SUBMISSION SORA PROCESS



Intrinsic UAS ground risk class				
Max UAS characteristics dimension	1 m / approx. 3 ft	3 m / approx. 10 ft	8 m / approx. 25 ft	>8 m / approx. 25 ft
Typical kinetic energy expected	< 700 J (approx. 529 ft lb)	< 34 kJ (approx. 25 000 ft lb)	< 1 084 kJ (approx. 800 000 ft lb)	> 1 084 kJ (approx. 800 000 ft lb)
Operational scenarios				
VLOS/BVLOS over a controlled ground area ³	1	2	3	4
VLOS over a sparsely populated area	2	3	4	5
BVLOS over a sparsely populated area	3	4	5	6
VLOS over a populated area	4	5	6	8
BVLOS over a populated area	5	6	8	10
VLOS over an assembly of people	7			
BVLOS over an assembly of people	8			
Table 2 — Determination of the intrinsic GRC				

SAIL determination				
	Residual ARC			
Final GRC	а	b	С	d
≤2	- I	Ш	IV	VI
3	Ш	Ш	IV	VI
4	III	III	IV	VI
5	IV	IV	IV	VI
6	V	V	V	VI
7	VI	VI	VI	VI
>7	Category C operation			
Table 5 — SAIL determination				

- 24 OSOs with required robustness
- Step #9 / #10 require elaboration

5.2 SPECIFIC CAT. APPLICATION SUBMISSION KEY DOCUMENTS

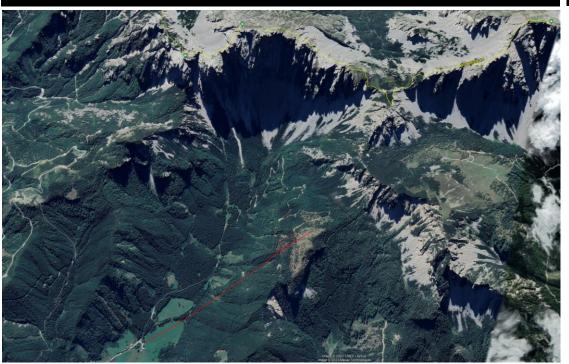
Application Form and Annex		SORA, CONOPS and Appendices		
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Model a., und nenne erfordertik, korman A. ∑ Elektrisch Beschreibung İAm ARB Medium LI Übereinander mont	In den Index verwendeten Anteiba. Geben Sie (an der dafür vorgesehenen Stelle) den Hersteller und das Sie de reisensten Informationen wie die Anzahl der Motzen, die Konfgunation uw, an. Fals Sie der eisensten Informationen wie die Anzahl der Motzen, die Konfgunation uw, an. Fals Eisenzungenzung im Der Terbenste Stellejt werden.	AIRG SYSTEMS GmbH Klagenfurt, 27 May 2022 1 1		
Hersteller, T-Motor Type: MN7015-135k ro_urA_boc_tos_be_vz		AIR6 SYSTEMS GmbH Klagenfurt, 27 May 2022		

5.3 SPECIFIC CAT. APPROVAL PROCESS TIMELINE: 3 MONTHS FROM 1ST CONSULTATION

29 Sep '21: Initial contact: Would S 02 be feasible for our cas Reply: No, CE-certified of is required, which are on available 2023. Therefore individual SORA has to elaborated.	se? (1 hour / free) wi drone Austro Control (A ly e, an	th AC)	17 May'22: Confirmation of receipt, with case number 27 days	19 May '22: AC feedback #1	
29 Sep 2021 6 April 2022 17 May 2022 2 June 2022 30 June 2023 0					
27 May '22: Second consultation (30 minutes)	31 May '22: Revision #1 AC feedback #2	2 June '22: Final submission	3 Jun '22: AC results of the taking evidence for review AIRBORNE review provided	30 Jun '22: Final Approval Letter (notice arrived)	

PROJECT OUTCOME DEMONSTRATOR WITH RED CROSS AND 2 UNIVERSITIES

Demonstrator Day



Project Findings

- Technical:
 - Satcom is key for BVLOS capabilities
 - GEO vs LEO satcom
 - Video is essential (even with bad resolution/ latency)
- Medical:
 - Drone approach creates no extra stress
 - Range of quality in treatment is huge
 - Any type of treatment is considered positive
- Logistics:
 - Drone with AED is only option for survival
 - Emergency call sequence to be optimized
 - Tethering solution (rope/drop) is faster than full landing



6.







PROJECT OUTCOME DEMONSTRATOR WITH RED CROSS AND 2 UNIVERSITIES

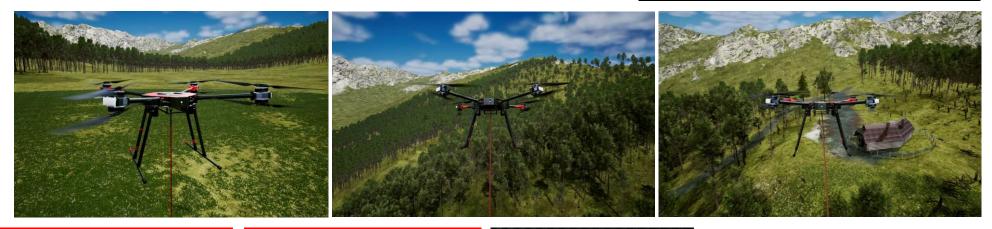
6.



- Prepare thoroughly, to get the most out of the consultations
- Most delays can be avoided
- Actively follow-up on emails if you don't hear for a week
- Technical side: simulation is a powerful tool, if applied thoroughly
 - digital twin for assessment of operational and technical risks / readiness;
 - trialling mitigating measures in synthetic environment

Simulation: desk-top planning and testing

- Unlimited no. of runs for all eventualities
- BVLOS capabilities
- Waypoint planning
- Terrain follow / obstacles collision checks
- Long-range communications, shadowing and redundancy
- Workflow analysis and timings





BVLOS Operations

New performance heights. Further horizons. Unlimited possibilities.

THANK YOU

AIRBORNE ROBOTICS

AIRBORNE ROBOTICS Limited www.airborne-robotics.com PRIMARY CONTACT: Alex FRAESS-EHRFELD alex@airborne-robotics.com