

A large, white, V-shaped aircraft with a black cockpit and a small propeller at the rear, flying against a dramatic, cloudy sky at sunset or sunrise. The aircraft is angled upwards, showing its unique V-wing configuration.

FLEXROTOR

Land & Sea Expeditionary UAS

The VTOL UAS Shaping the Future of
Autonomous Operations

Product Presentation -

11/21/2024

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Flexrotor

A unique design with unmatched capabilities



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	FLEXROTOR Overview		Experience
	Technology & Components		Mission Scope Extension & Product Road Map
	Applications		Support & Services

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FLEXROTOR

A highly expeditionary Vertical Take-off and Landing (VTOL) small tactical aircraft system (STUAS).

Designed for land- and sea-based military and commercial operations, FLEXROTOR is the most agile and effective aircraft in its class.



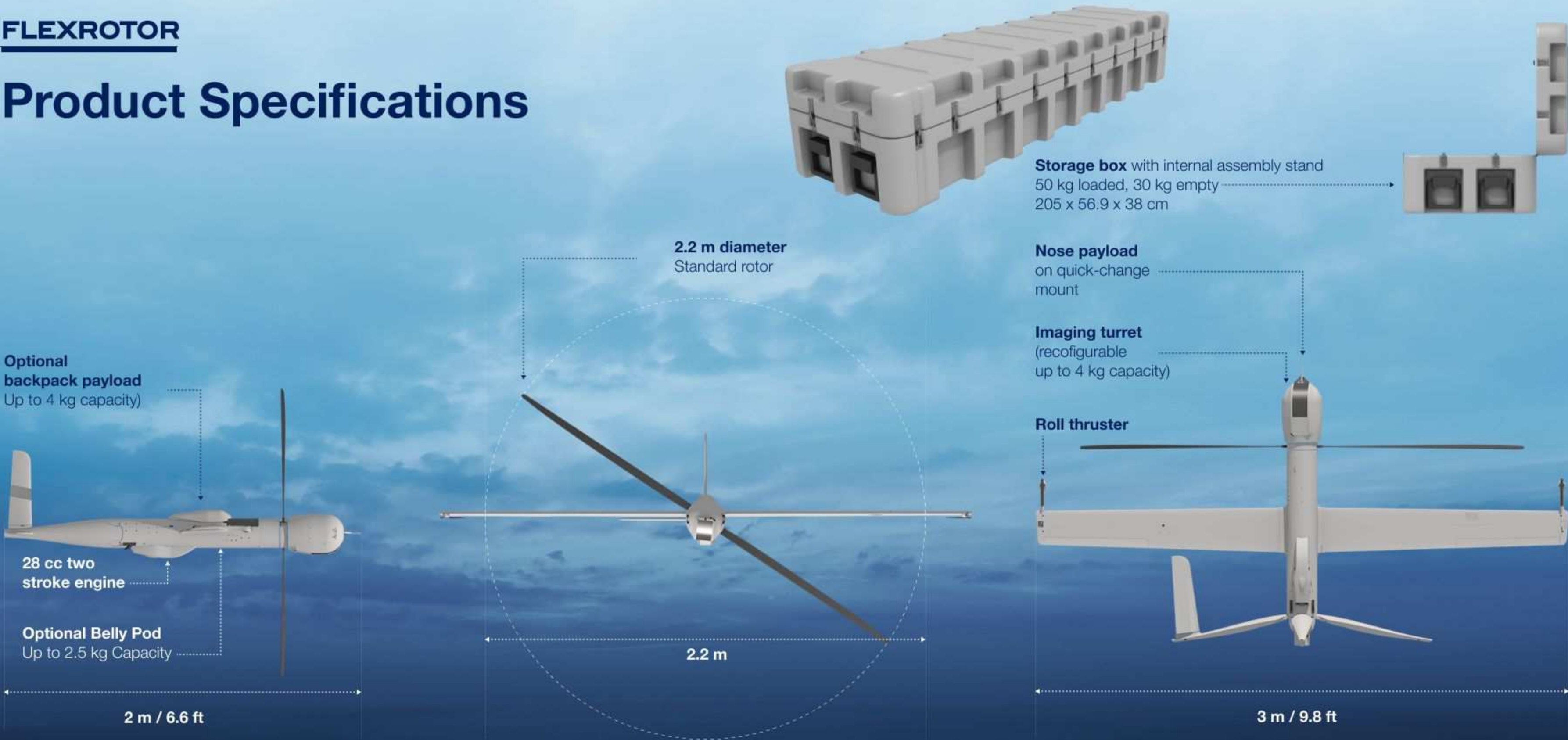
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More Than 30 Years of Experience



FLEXROTOR

Product Specifications



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FLEXROTOR

System Specifications



Configuration	Tail Sitter VTOL
Wingspan	9.8 ft (3 m)
Length	6.6 (L. (2m)
Rotor Diameter	...
• Prop Blades	7.2 ft. (2.2m)
Max Takeoff Weight	...
• Standard Prop Blades	25 kg
Engine	...
• Standard	28 cc. 2 Stroke
• Heavy Fuel	28 cc. 2 Stroke
Fuel Type	Gasoline (C 10) or Heavy Fuel (JP5)
Wing-bore ceiling © 52.3 lb.	...
• Altitude	21,000 ft
Speed	...
• Cruise	46 kt (85 kph)
• Maximum	77 kt (140 kph)
Endurance	...
• Takeoff at 0m MSL	> 15 hr.
• Takeoff above 1,500 m MSL	> 10 hr.
Temperature	-40 to 50 °C
Wind	...
• Hover	27 kts
• Forward Flight	> 40 kts
Rain	> 1.0 in/hr
Operational Range	165 km
Payload Data Rate	100 Mbps
Payload Weight	...
• Nose	4.0 kg
• Backpack/Belly Mount	3 kg
• Optional Wing	200 g
Standard Payload	...
• EO	09E03
• EOIR	09EIR3

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KEY FEATURES 1/4

Expeditionary

- Vertical Take-Off and Landing
- Airborne in less than 30 minutes (includes fueling and CGS setup)
- Easily transported on patrol boats, pickups and special operations aerial insertions
- Requires zero Launch and Recovery Equipment (LRE)
- Superior performance with no break in contact
- Combines the thrust-borne capability of a helicopter with the wing-borne efficiency of a powered sailplane
- Packs down to 50kg box for transport

Safe

- No human contact during takeoff/landing

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KEY FEATURES 2/4

Autonomous

- Fully autonomous during VTOL and wing-borne phases of flight

Compact Launch Zone

- Requires no more than 3.7m x 3.7m (12ft x 12ft) launch / landing area

Long Range

- Average endurance of 12 -14 hours, with payload and fuel tank

Efficient

- Dash speed of 77kts

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KEY FEATURES 3/4

Covert

- Inaudible at 500m
- Engine can be shut-off at altitude for brief periods, enabling silent loiter above targets

Multi-Intelligence

- Delivers advanced multi-sensor intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and target acquisition (ISTAR) services

ITAR-Free

- Commercial product in base configuraiton

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KEY FEATURES 4/4

Payload Agnostic

- Supports interchangeable payloads and digital turrets
- Seamless plug-and-play integration with sensors including: EO/MWIR/LWIR cameras, AIS, and Land/Maritime Wide Area Search

All-Weather

- Conducts day/night operations in challenging land and marine environments
- Can take -off and land in winds up to 27 knots
- Invariant to wind and magnetic north directions
- Operational in extreme heat and cold temperatures

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STANDARDS COMPLIANCE

- Fuel Compatibility: MIL-DTL-5624 grade JP-4/JP-5; MIL-DTL-83133 grade JP-8/JP-8+100
- Pursing certifications for: MIL-STD-461G & MIL-DTL-901E (Grade B)
- Sensors output: STANAG 4545, 4607, and 4676 messages

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BEST PAYLOAD MASS FRACTION

FLEXROTOR offers the best payload mass fraction and endurance than any other Group 2/3 UAS; this translates to a smaller aircraft, smaller and quieter engine, lower fuel-burn rate, more efficient logistics, and consequently lower operational cost/hour

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Standard Payload/Sensor Integration

All listed payloads and sensors offer seamless plug-and-play integration with the Flexrotor. Integration with other payloads is also available upon request.

Primary Payloads



HoodTech Alticam 06E0IR
Mid-wave infrared (MWIR), HD electro optical (EO) imaging



HoodTech Alticam 09E0IR3 (MWIR3.6)
Mid-wave infrared (MWIR), HD electro optical (EO) imaging



Legacy Analog Turrets



HoodTech Alticam 09E03 (E0960)
HD electro-optical (EO) imaging

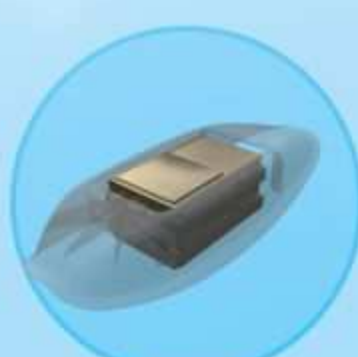
Auxiliary Payloads



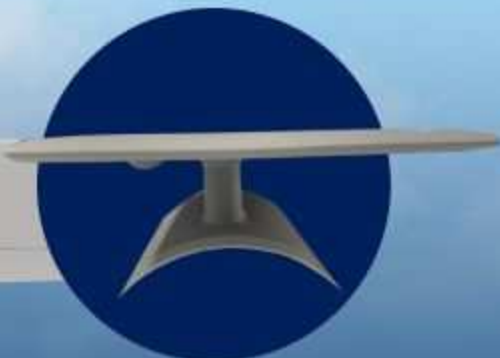
Overwatch Imaging PT-6
HD LWIR & RGB for wide-area search and ISR missions



IMSAR NSP-3
Multi-mode, multi-domain SAR/MTI Radar



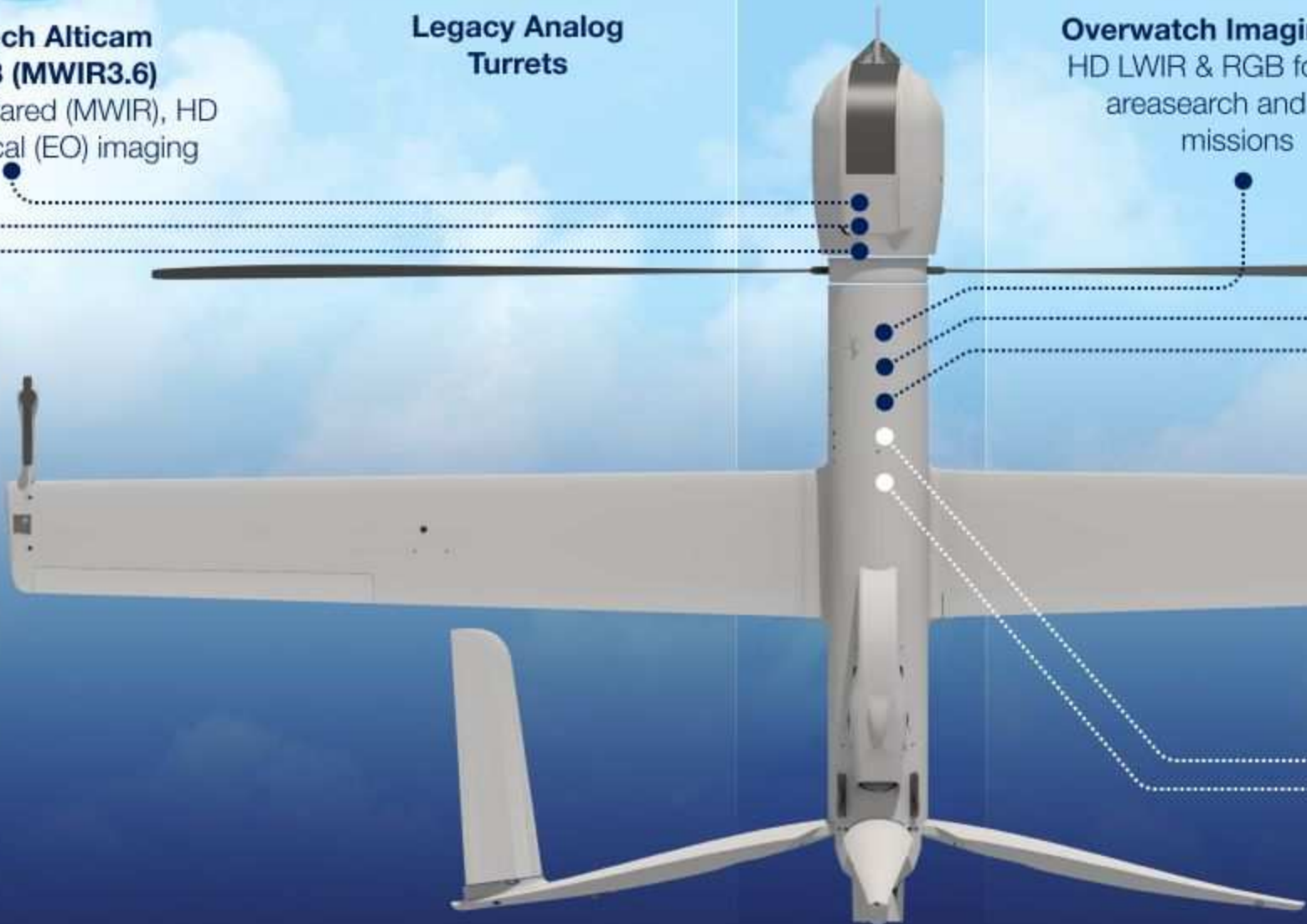
Avionics Payload Bay



Starlink



AUX Fuel Tank

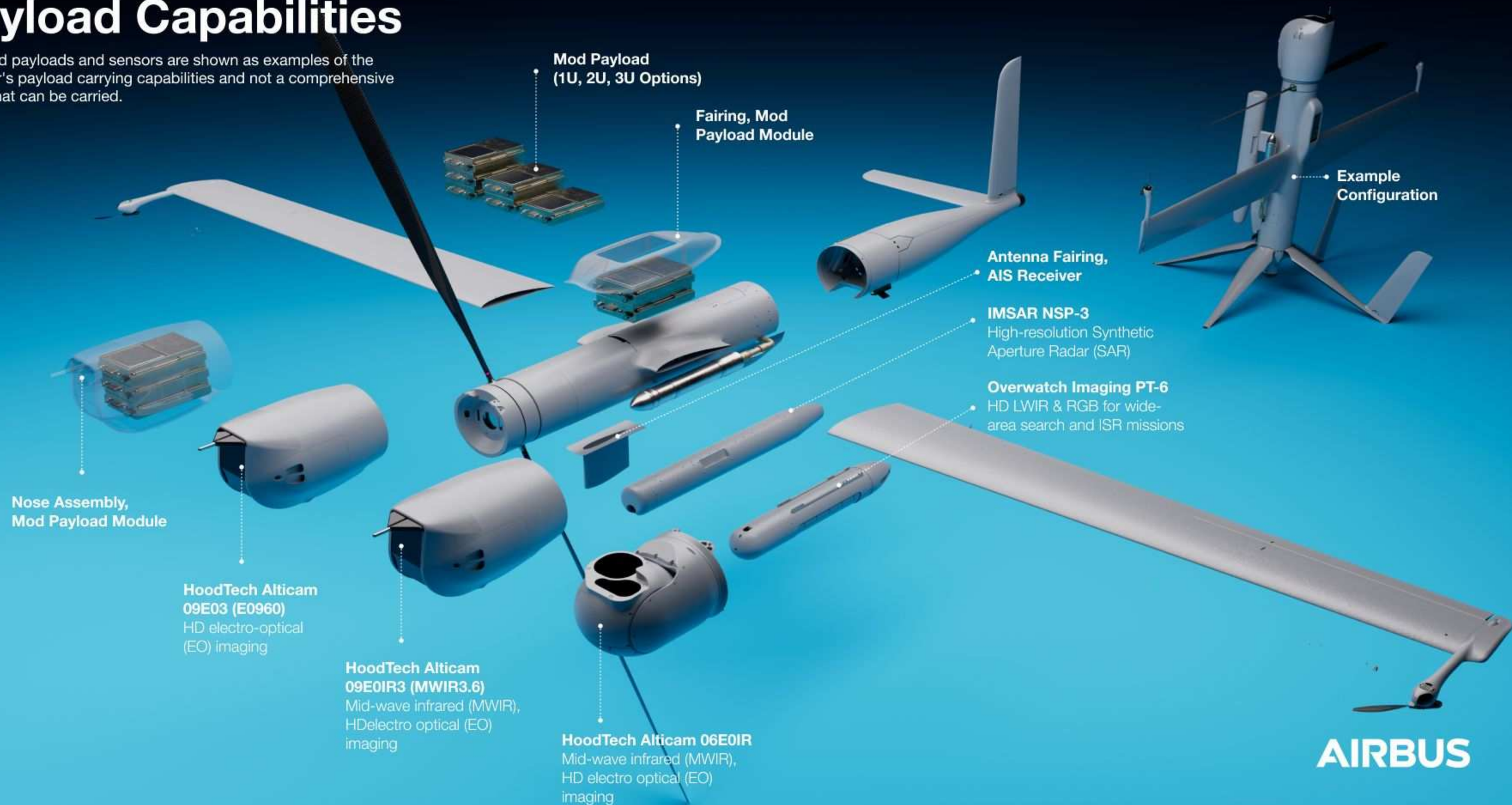


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Payload Capabilities

The listed payloads and sensors are shown as examples of the Flexrotor's payload carrying capabilities and not a comprehensive list of what can be carried.



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FIELD EXPERIENCE

FLEXROTOR is field-proven with thousands of flight hours, including operational missions in extreme environmental conditions such as desert heat, and arctic cold, and shipboard operations in winds/gusts conditions up to 27 knots.

In addition, turnkey, contractor-owned, contractor-operated (COCO) services, have accommodated global deployment of FLEXROTOR, on multiple US Government ISR missions.

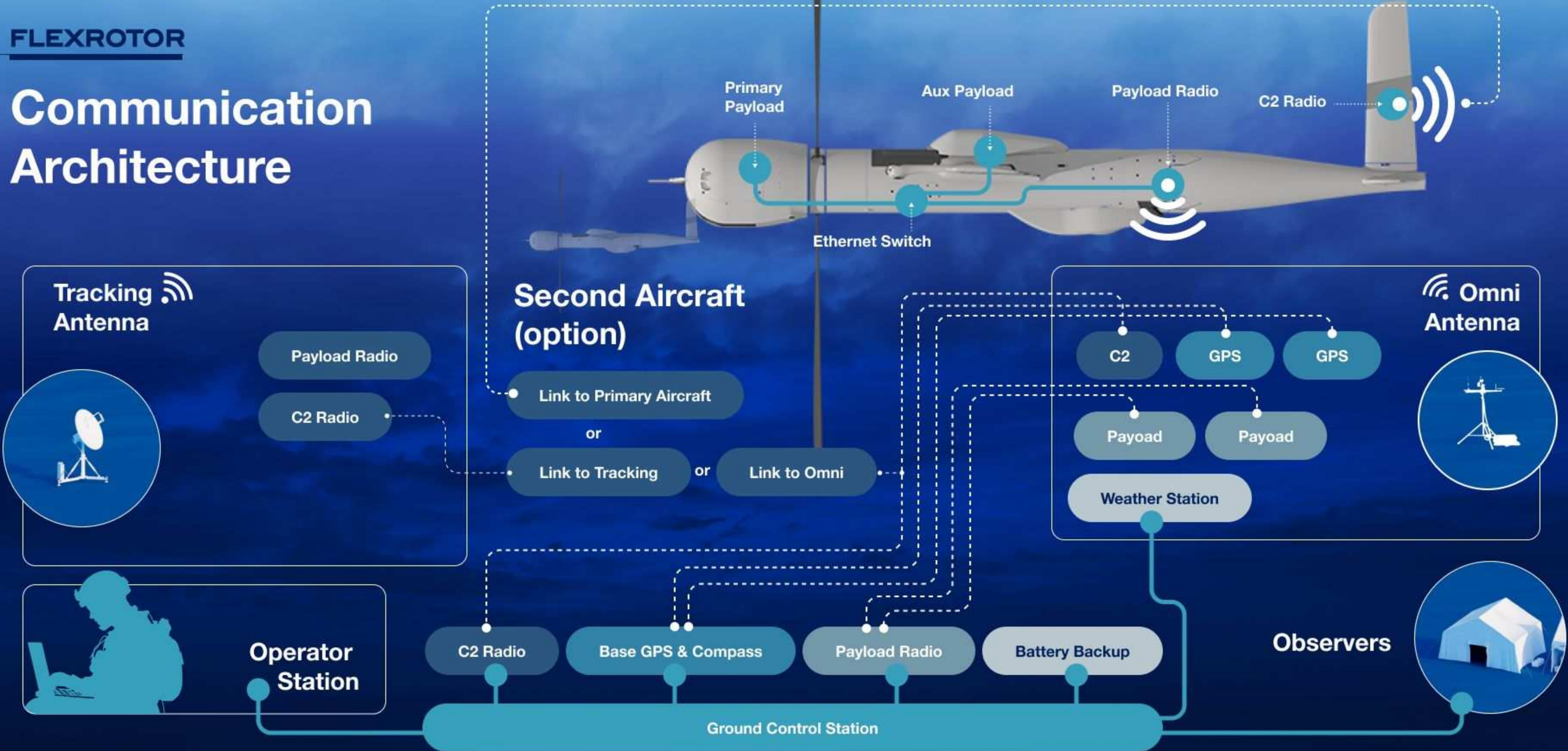
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	FLEXROTOR Overview		Experience
	Technology & Components		Mission Scope Extension & Product Road Map
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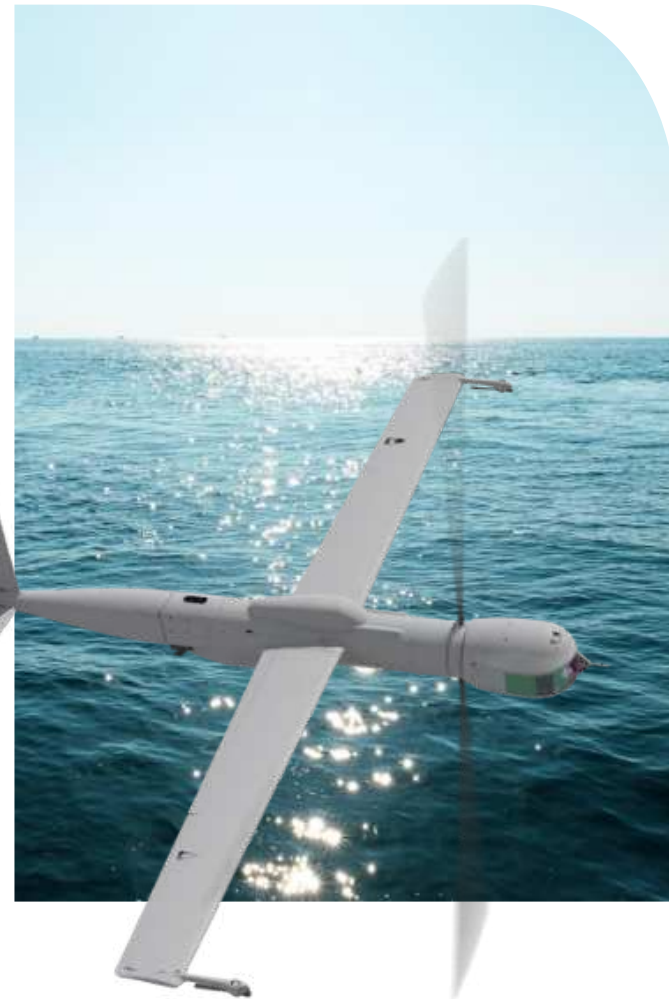
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Communication Architecture



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UAS COMMAND & CONTROL



In case of both links lost:

- UAV will initiate, automatically, lost link logic to recover datalink.

Should none of the links be recovered:

- An autonomous preplanned lost link route is engaged.
- RTB to facilitate autonomous aircraft lost link landing.

GPS denied environment:

- Internal IMU can provide navigation via dead reckoning (magnetometer and speed/time) to perform a return to base.



- Two independent, dissimilar & redundant LOS DL
- Each includes an airborne part (integrated into the UAV) and a ground/ship part:
 - LSDDL: Low-Speed Data Link
Freewave 900Mhz
 - HSDDL: High-Speed Data Link
Silvus Streamcaster 2,4 GHz
- Several solutions can be provided for operation in GPS-challenged conditions.
- **STANAG 4586 and MIL-STD compliant**

Ground Control Station

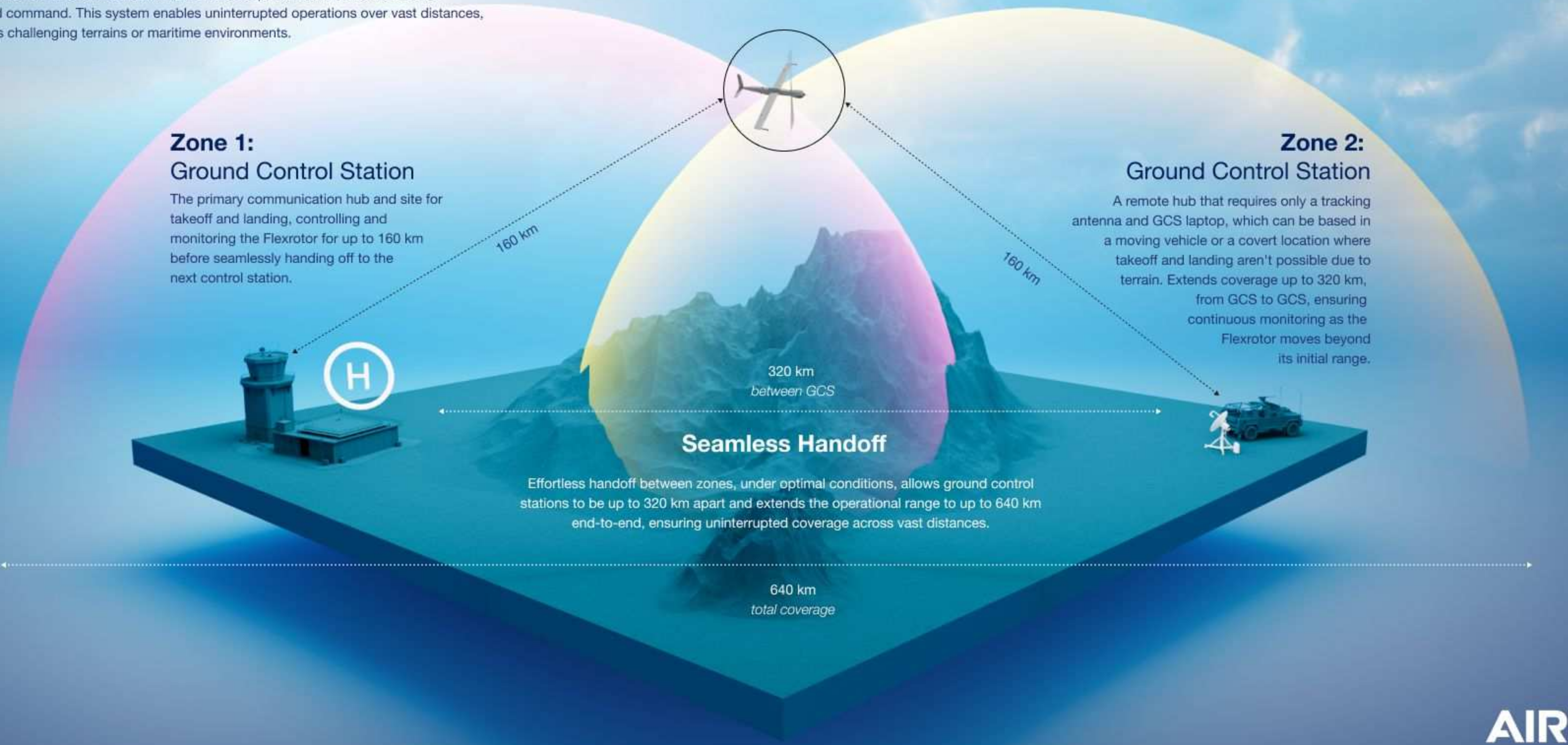
- Ruggedized Laptop: used throughout the entire mission phase (preparation, ground/deck operations, take-off, and (deck) landing, flight, and mission)
- Extended Display: To operate aircraft and payload during flight

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Hub-And-Spoke Model

In this model, Ground Station 1 serves as the central hub for takeoff and landing, maintaining control during the initial phase of flight. As the Flexrotor extends beyond line of sight, control is seamlessly transferred to Ground Station 2, the remote spoke that ensures continuous monitoring and command. This system enables uninterrupted operations over vast distances, whether across challenging terrains or maritime environments.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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MISSION CAPABILITIES

FLEXROTOR delivers intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and target acquisition (ISTAR) services in various tactical, maritime, and civil applications. Whether it's finding threats, providing intelligence, securing borders, hunting drugs, or mapping fires, this agile VTOL UAS

~~delivers~~ Multi-Mission Capable

- ISTAR Maritime
- ISTAR Land
- Commercial
- SIGINT

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ISTAR MARITIME

FLEXROTOR offers superior performance in over-water missions, delivering real-time intelligence for naval reconnaissance, maritime surveillance, and coastal monitoring.

Its extended endurance ensures continuous coverage and enhances mission effectiveness across large water areas.



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ISTAR LAND

FLEXROTOR's advanced ISTAR capabilities give a tactical edge for military and border operations, providing precise intelligence that enhances decision-making and boosts mission success.

With the ability to take off from austere land sites, FLEXROTOR can be deployed in challenging environments.

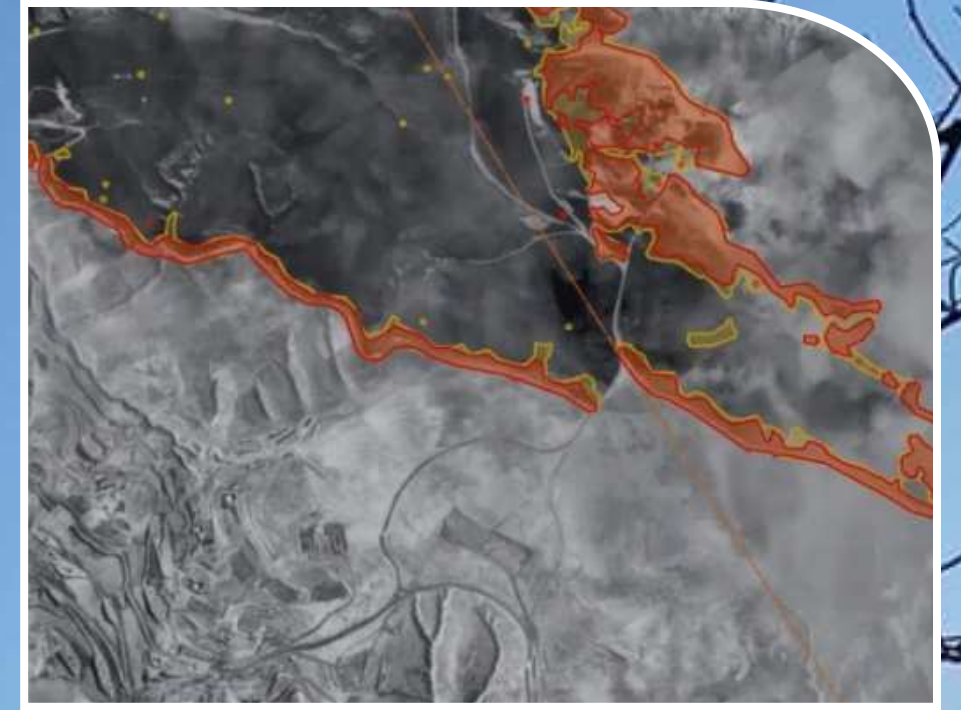


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COMMERCIAL

FLEXROTOR supports various commercial uses, such as firefighting, infrastructure monitoring, search and rescue, environmental assessments, and agricultural surveillance. Its advanced features ensure reliable intelligence, boosting safety, efficiency, and effectiveness.

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ELINT & SIGINT

FLEXROTOR can accommodate electronic and signal intelligence payloads, offering accurate, discreet data collection. It detects and tracks electronic emissions and communications, providing vital insights for intelligence, electronic warfare, and situational awareness.

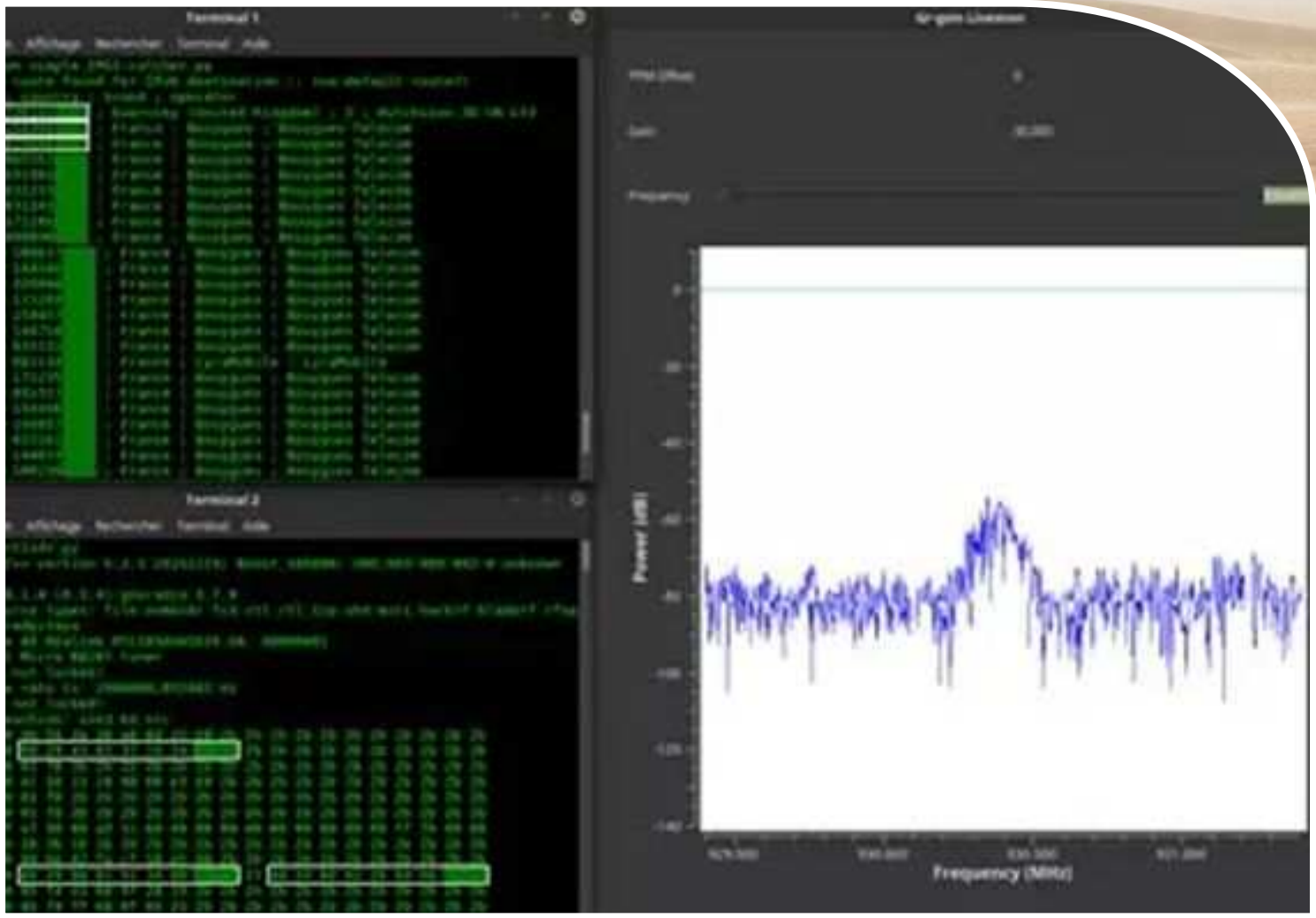
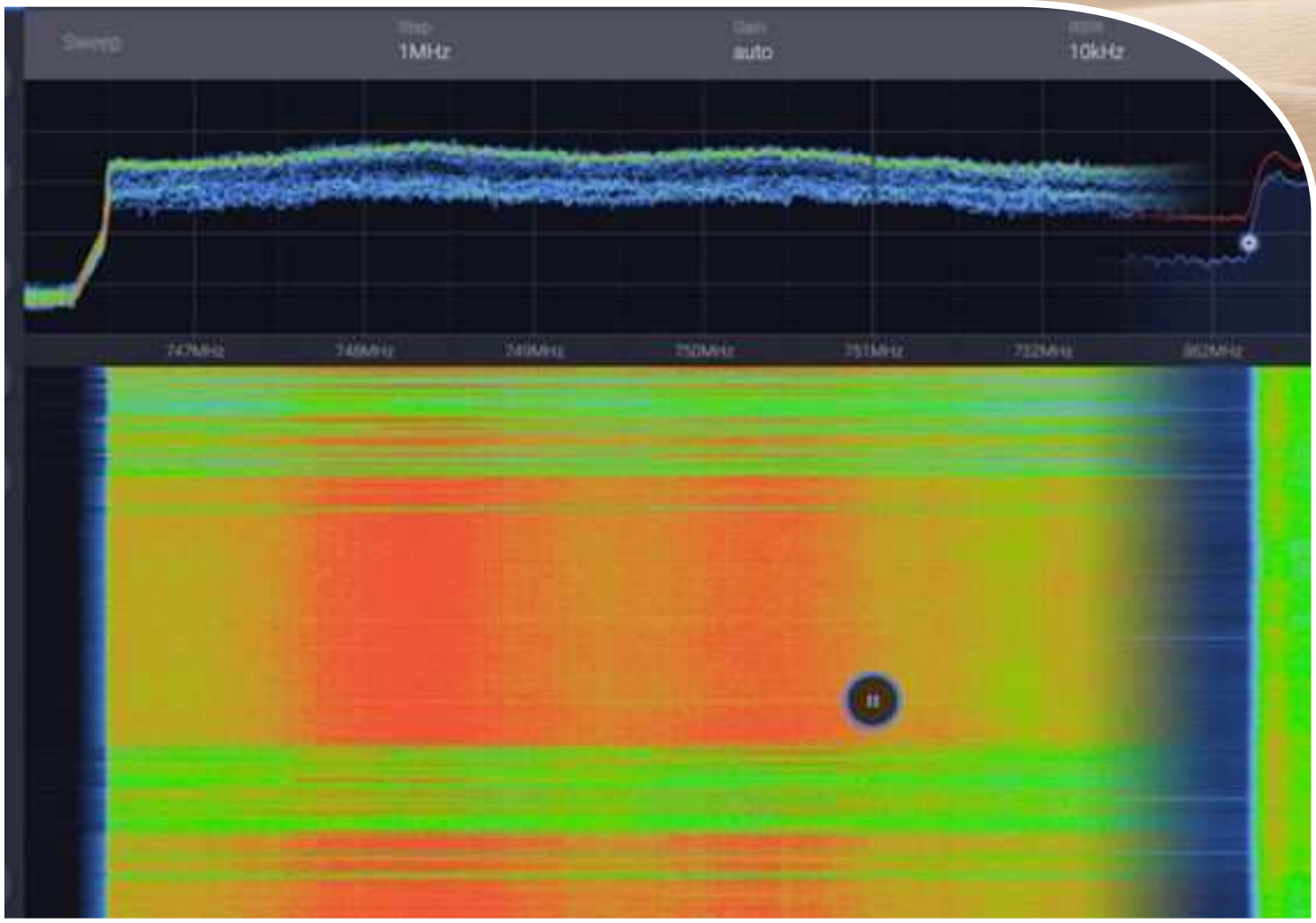


TABLE OF CONTENTS



FLEXROTOR Overview



Experience



Technology & Components



Mission Scope Extension & Product Road Map



Applications



Support & Services

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GLOBAL DEPLOYMENTS

- First time at sea in 2015 aboard the expedition yacht Umbra in the tropical eastern Pacific. Later, to the Beaufort in Alaska aboard the Aiviq icebreaker, and the equatorial mid-Pacific aboard the tuna seiner Cape Horn.
- Through an ISR services provider to US DoD, contracted with Aeroval for a SOCOM project leading to evaluation at Dugway, Utah in 2017, and eventually being awarded an IDIQ contract for SOCOM's MEUAS-IV program.
- Deployment of FLEXROTOR to Afghanistan with USMC in 2018, and on ship in the eastern Pacific with SouthComm in 2019.

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GLOBAL DEPLOYMENTS CONTINUED

- First Group 2 VTOL UAS to autonomously take-off and land from a US Coast Guard Fast Response Cutter (FRC)
- Participated in successful deployments in Digital Horizon 2022 and International Maritime Exercises 2023
- Ongoing Company Owned Company Operated (COCO) ISR services for the US Navy 5th Fleet Task Force 59 & 55 in the Middle East
- Over 4000 flight hours accumulated to date, including over 1400 hrs. in Afghanistan and many shipboard and land take-offs and landings

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	FLEXROTOR Overview		Experience
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CREWED-UNCREWED
TEAMING AT AIRBUS



2018-2022

H145M Demos

Multi-UAS capability

demonstrated in complex



2024

MUSHER Demo : H130 with
VSR700 in cooperation
with Leonardo and Thales
Common European
exchange protocol

SHORT TERM

Teaming Capabilities
Step 1

Tasking 1 UAV from 1 H/C
with a safety pilot in the
loop and light cockpit
integration



MID TERM

Teaming Capabilities
Step 2

Tasking multiple
UAVs/ALEs from
H/Cs, no remote pilot
required and
solution integrated in
cockpit



LONG TERM

Future Combat Air System



FUTURE OBJECTIVES

Develop
Crewed-Uncrewed
Teaming capabilities to
connect our H/C fleet
with UAV and perform
missions

incontested

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CREW CONCEPT

A scalable solution for different levels of cockpit integration

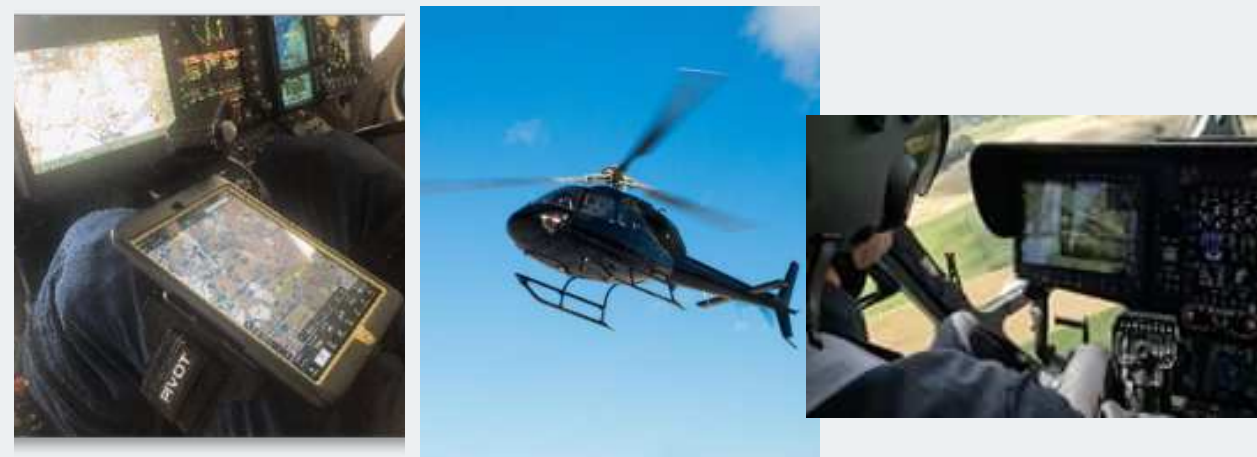
LEGACY AIRCRAFTS | 3 CREWS



- MuMT functions operate from cabin either from the mission station or tablet
- No cockpit connection required

OPTION 2

LEGACY AIRCRAFTS | 2 CREWS



- MuMT functions operated from a tablet or integrated cockpit display
- High level of automation required to optimize crew workload

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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END-TO-END SERVICE SOLUTIONS

Airbus provides end-to-end service solutions with Airbus/ non-Airbus assets and has the flexibility to provide a capability through any desired contractual setup.



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SERVICE LEVEL

From full mission ownership, to the delivery of select capabilities, Airbus accommodates customer needs.



Customer has full control with Airbus support and service



Airbus can operate any customer-owned or leased asset

Airbus can offer all services and handover in-flight for customers to operate only the mission

Airbus delivers data and services to customers for improved decision-making



Airbus or Partner operates full mission based on a range of assets

Customer relieved of capex & operational burden

Local partners as service providers offer regional expertise

Increased service flexibility and reach

Complete turnkey solution & minimal management for customer

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ASSEMBLY



Simplified design accommodates rapid assembly of proven components

- Out-of-the-box assembly is done in less than 30 min
- The only tool used is a nut driver to secure the nose payload
- Opportunities for additional payload integration

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EASY TRANSPORT

FLEXROTOR is the only Group 2 UAS with 12-14 hours of endurance, capable of transporting a 6-month pack-out that fits neatly on a 463L pallet, ensuring efficient and reliable transport.

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LOGISTICS



6-Month Pack-Out
(2000 Flt hrs.)

- 3 FLEXROTOR aircraft
- 2 Ground Control Systems
- Long Range Antenna
- Consumables
- 2m3 – 385 kg

FLEXROTOR's small footprint expands UAS industry areas of operations

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TRANSPORTABILITY



Flexrotor is the only Group 2 UAS with >14 hours endurance capable of transporting a 6-month pack-out via:

- Single 463L pallet
- Type V Airdrop platform



- Hilux pickup
- H-145 Helicopter

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FLEXROTOR TRAINING

The training curriculum for the FLEXROTOR system is 80 hours of instruction, covered over six weeks, including theoretical knowledge and practical skills taught to the trainees through carefully crafted training modules, hands-on experience, and live flight.

Dual certification of operations and maintenance.



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FLEXROTOR TRAINING

1	OPERATING THE AIRCRAFT	takeoff, transitions and landing
2	PAYLOAD OPERATIONS	payload-specific operations and use.
3	AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE	complete field level aircraft maintenance
4	CERTIFICATION	operator/payload/maintenance certification will be issued upon completion of the FLEXROTOR training course
5	MAINTAIN CURRENCY	annual one-week re-currency training is required to maintain valid Operator/Maintainer certification and proficiency

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SUMMARY

Flexrotor is the longest endurance, lowest cost, smallest footprint, and optimized VTOL aircraft

Proven legacy of design combined with 30 years of small- aircraft experience

Smallest pack-out on the market – truly expeditionary

Available to address both commercial and defense mission sets – ITAR-free



Thank you

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