



Press Release

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Vertical Flight Society Continues Record Growth, Exceeds 180 Corporate Members

*VFS and its members continue advancing vertical flight technology
for electric aviation and advanced rotorcraft*

Fairfax, Virginia, USA, Jan. 10, 2023 — The Vertical Flight Society (VFS), the world’s leading non-profit organization working to advance vertical flight, reports today that the explosive growth of world’s electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft — plus significant developments in military and civil rotorcraft — have continued to expand its membership.

As of Jan. 1, 2023, a total of 183 companies are now members of VFS, a net growth of 20 companies (12%) from a year ago, and 83 companies over the past five years. VFS has nearly 6,400 individual members — a net increase of nearly 6% (350 individuals) since before the COVID-19 pandemic and a 30% growth (1,400 individuals) over the past six years. Much of this growth is due to the extensive support efforts and resources that VFS provides to the vertical flight industry, including technical resources, talent acquisition, professional development, educational opportunities and networking.

“This past year saw impressive progress towards certification of eVTOL aircraft in the US, Europe and Asia,” said VFS Executive Director Mike Hirschberg. “VFS has been instrumental in bringing the community together and developing broad support for eVTOL developments over the past decade. We are very proud of the progress shown by our corporate members, as well as our members in academia and government agencies around the world.”

This month’s 10th Annual VFS Electric VTOL Symposium — being held Jan. 24–26 in-person in Mesa, Arizona (and also virtually) in conjunction with the Society’s 10th Biennial Autonomous VTOL Technical Meeting — is the world’s largest and longest-running event focusing on the incredible promise, progress and challenges of eVTOL aircraft.

The event features a day of plenary sessions with 16 leaders from industry and government addressing both electric and autonomous VTOL aircraft. Opening government speakers represent the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), US Army and US Navy, with industry leaders from Airbus, Boeing, Archer, Joby, Lilium, Near Earth Autonomy, Overair, Textron and Wisk.

An additional 50 VIP speakers and panelists in the symposium cover important topics regarding eVTOL developments, while some 30 technical papers and presentations on autonomy, drones, Mars helicopters, eVTOL and advanced air mobility (AAM) will be presented. See www.vtol.org/eVTOL2023 for details.

A total of 46 new companies joined VFS during 2022, as listed below. Descriptions of each company, including links to their websites, are found in the [VFS Corporate Member Directory](#). Information on the benefits and rates for corporate membership are posted on the [VFS Corporate Membership](#) page.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Membership Class</u>
Advanced Aircraft Company	Small Business
ANDAR Electromechanical Systems	Small Business
Aria Group Inc.	Associate
ASKA	Associate
AURA Network Systems	Copper
AutoFlight Europe GmbH	Associate
Avports LLC	Small Business
Baldwin Safety & Compliance	Associate
Bayards Vertiports	Small Business
Canadian Advanced Air Mobility	Affiliate
Daedalean Inc	Small Business
EHang Intelligent Equipment (Guangzhou) Co., Ltd.	Small Business
Electro.Aero Pty Ltd	Small Business
Enstrom Helicopter Corporation	Small Business
Eve Air Mobility	Small Business
FirePoint Innovations Center	Associate
Intercomp	Associate
JHNA	Copper
Kitty Hawk Corporation	Small Business
Lockheed Martin Government Affairs	Small Business
LuftCar LLC	Small Business
MAGicALL, Inc.	Small Business
MGI Engineering Ltd	Small Business
MightyFly	Associate
Murzilli Consulting	Associate
Odawara Automation, Inc.	Small Business
Odys Aviation	Small Business
Opener	Copper
OSS Air Management Pvt Ltd	Associate
Point Lighting Corporation	Small Business
Prime Air	Associate
PSSC Labs	Small Business
Qarbon Aerospace	Silver
Ricardo Strategic Consulting	Associate
Roland Berger GmbH	Associate
Shanghai TCab Technology Co., Ltd	Small Business
SZ DJI Technology Co., Ltd	Bronze
Technology for Energy Corporation	Associate
The Gilmore Group, LLC	Associate
UAS Center at SBD	Associate
UMILES Next	Small Business
VPorts	Small Business
Windings	Associate
Women & Drones	Associate
Xagon Solutions Inc.	Small Business
ZEVA	Small Business

These new corporate members include companies and associations from around the world who are supporting all aspects of vertical flight. In addition to civil and military rotorcraft developments, such as the US Army's Future Vertical Lift (FVL) program, eVTOL developments increased markedly in 2022.

VFS has been the world's largest technical community of engineers, technologists and specialists developing vertical flight aircraft for 80 years. A growing number of professionals are entering the vertical flight industry and VFS provides them with numerous opportunities to increase their knowledge and exchange ideas.

VFS has been at the forefront of what it calls the "Electric VTOL Revolution" since 2014 when it held the world's first meeting of the eVTOL development community. At the time, the idea of electric VTOL aircraft was greeted with widespread skepticism, but growing technical progress, flight demonstrations, government validation and private investment have helped reverse public perception. It is now recognized that the vertical flight market is poised for significant expansion over the next few years as eVTOL aircraft enter service that can have better performance than conventional helicopters for certain missions, as well as lower operating costs and lower noise.

As of today, the Society has cataloged over 760 different electric VTOL concepts from more than 350 companies and innovators on its authoritative World eVTOL Aircraft Directory at www.evtol.news. When VFS launched the site in April 2017, only a dozen eVTOL programs were under development. Some 170 new designs were added in 2022 alone. The site currently also hosts some 750 eVTOL news stories, including more than 300 in-depth articles from the Society's *Vertiflite* magazine, the leading periodical on eVTOL and rotorcraft developments.

VFS was founded as the American Helicopter Society in 1943 by the visionaries of the early helicopter industry, who believed that technological cooperation and collaboration were essential to support this new type of aircraft. Today, history is repeating itself, with VFS playing a similar role helping to advance today's revolutionary eVTOL aircraft.

VFS holds the largest and longest-running vertical flight technical conference in the world, which this year will be its 79th Annual Forum & Technology Display on May 16-18, 2023, in West Palm Beach, Florida, USA: www.vtol.org/forum.

VFS is @VTOLsociety on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Mastodon](#), [Twitter](#), [Vimeo](#) and [YouTube](#), and has @ElectricVTOL channels on [Facebook](#), [Mastodon](#) and [Twitter](#).

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