



Press Release

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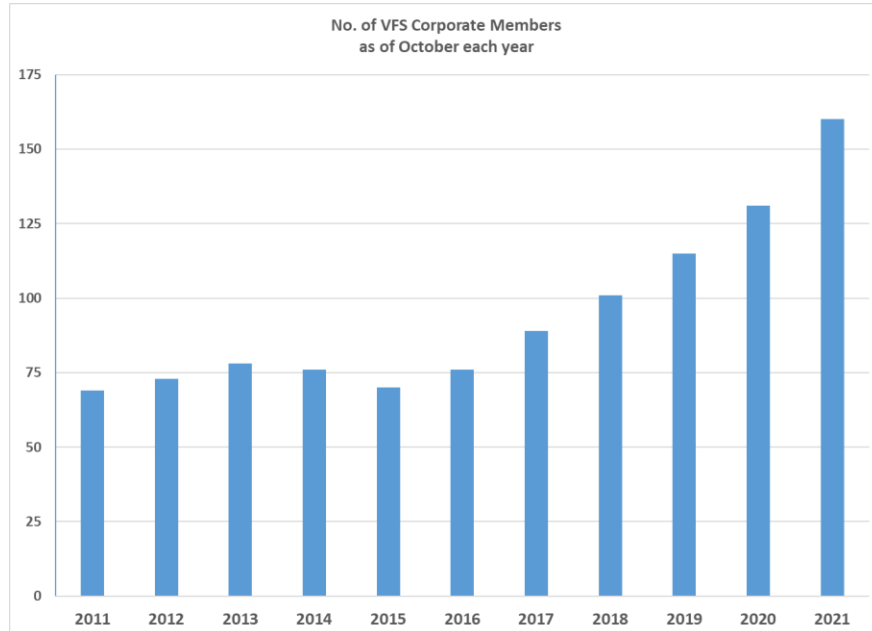
Valerie Sheehan
1-703-684-6777 x107
pr@vtol.org

Vertical Flight Society Continues Record Growth, Reaches 160 Corporate Members

10 new companies joined VFS as corporate members in past six months

Fairfax, VA, Oct. 7, 2021 — The Vertical Flight Society (VFS), the world’s leading non-profit organization working to advance vertical flight, reports today that it has continued to experience record growth, propelled largely by the continued expansion of electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) / advanced air mobility (AAM) aircraft developments around the world.

As of Oct. 1, 2021, a total of 160 companies and other organizations have joined VFS as corporate members, a net increase of 10 new members over the past six months. This is a 60% increase since January 2018, when the Society exceeded 100 members, and a 110% increase over the past five years. In addition, the Society now has more than 6,300 individual members. This is nearly a 20% net increase in individual members since January 2018, when VFS had 5,300 members.



Growth in VFS corporate members over the past decade, despite the 2014 defense cuts

Historically, the vertical flight industry was dominated by helicopter manufacturers and their suppliers, but an entirely new sector has emerged in the past several years, led by companies developing eVTOL aircraft to serve potential new markets, such as urban air taxis, air ambulance services, logistics, cargo, organ transport, and other civil and military missions.

“The Vertical Flight Society has been leading efforts to advance electric VTOL since 2014 and has helped create the growing technical community across the eVTOL ecosystem,” said VFS Executive Director Mike Hirschberg. “As interest in eVTOL / AAM has exploded around the world and attracted nearly \$10 billion in investments, VFS has helped build a community for this burgeoning segment, working together to realize the transformative potential of what we see as an ‘Electric VTOL Revolution.’”

The next major gathering of the rapidly growing eVTOL community will be on Jan. 25-27, 2022, in San Jose, California, when VFS hosts the [9th Annual Electric VTOL Symposium](#) — the world’s largest and longest-running event focusing on the incredible promise, progress and challenges of eVTOL aircraft — as part of the Society’s Transformative Vertical Flight 2022 meeting. This event also features the semi-annual Electric VTOL Short Course on Jan. 24, and a special event at the Hiller Aviation Museum on Jan. 28 that will feature an outdoor exhibit of cutting-edge eVTOL aircraft at the adjacent San Carlos Airport.

In addition, VFS continues to lead efforts to advance the capabilities of helicopters and advanced rotorcraft. The Society is hosting its latest [Rotorcraft Structures and Survivability Technical Meeting](#) on Oct. 27-28, 2021, at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, Virginia. The theme for the two-day conference is “Innovative Structures and Survivability Solutions for Vertical Lift.” The meeting will highlight research and development, both current and planned, related to manned and unmanned rotorcraft structures, crash safety and vulnerability reduction.

VFS is also supporting the [EUROPEAN ROTORS — VTOL Show & Safety Conference](#) on Nov. 16-18, 2021, in Cologne, Germany. It’s organized by the European Helicopter Association (EHA) in cooperation with the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA). VFS is hosting four sessions at the event, covering vertical flight research, helicopter safety, advanced rotorcraft technology and AAM developments.

“These past few years have seen amazing progress in vertical flight,” Hirschberg said. “Our members in industry, academia and government agencies around the world are working to advance rotorcraft and eVTOL aircraft, solving key challenges to produce more capable, safer, quieter and more economical aircraft for civil and military applications.”

New VFS Corporate Members who joined VFS since April 1, 2021, are listed below. Descriptions of each company, including links to websites and contact information, 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>Name</u>	<u>Membership Class</u>
AnalySwift, LLC	Small Business
Archer	Small Business
Eagle Aviation Technologies, Inc.	Small Business
Electric Power Systems, Inc. (EPS)	Small Business
Elroy Air	Small Business
Helo Holdings, Inc.	Associate
Hydroplane, Ltd	Small Business
Le-Vanta Tech, LLC	Small Business
LogistiWerx, Inc.	Small Business
Plug Power, Inc.	Small Business
Sentient Science	Small Business
Tier 1 Engineering	Small Business
UP.Partners	Small Business
Woolpert	Associate
Yamato Holdings Co., Ltd.	Bronze

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 vertical flight aircraft.

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The Vertical Flight Society

2700 Prosperity Ave, Suite 275, Fairfax, VA 22031 USA

+1-703-684-6777 | www.vtol.org | www.eVTOL.news