

Aethon Aerial Solutions and Aeroscout Announce Next Generation BVLOS Solution for the Energy and Utility Industries

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Aethon Aerial Solutions Inc. at the opening day of Commercial UAV, announced together with Aeroscout of Switzerland, that the companies intend to cooperate to build and certify for BVLOS (beyond visual line of sight) operations a variant of the Aeroscout B-330 UAV, combined with the Aethon Helios -1 LiDAR and Imaging Sensor for the US market.

Aethon, as lead partner for this program, anticipates that it will conduct BVLOS testing in North America to establish a framework for regulatory approval of commercial operations in both Canada and the USA. The system developed by Aethon and Aeroscout will utilize the Helios-1 Sensor developed by Aethon which has the industry-leading *RIEGL-VUX1* LiDAR sensor inside, a lightweight LiDAR system that operates autonomously on both manned and unmanned air vehicles.

The combined system will be available for operation by either utility aviation departments or their outsourced service providers as part of the Aethon Affiliate Network. The Affiliate Network is a turnkey asset management solution comprising both autonomous acquisition and automated cloud-based processing of LiDAR data and imagery to deliver business solutions to energy and utility clients managing critical infrastructure. By providing an autonomous acquisition and cloud-based data processing capability, without the costs of maintaining capital assets or highly trained staff, total asset management costs can be dramatically reduced while improving operational safety and reliability.

About Aethon Aerial Solutions

Aethon Aerial Solutions, with offices in Canada, the USA and Australia is headed by Alastair Jenkins (CEO) who has brought together a seasoned team of industry experts with over 100 years of collective experience in airborne LiDAR and remote sensing for commercial industrial and defense applications. Aethon is creating a high level of expertise in airborne remote sensing, field operations proficiency and 3D data analytics for airborne remote sensing and UAV-based inspection that will be unmatched in North America.

About Aeroscout

Aeroscout GmbH is located in Lucerne-Horw, Switzerland. Their primary flight base is close to Lucerne, Switzerland, approx. 1h from the Zurich International Airport. The company was founded in 2005 and is a spin-off company of the world renowned Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich. The company is headed by Dr. Christoph Eck (CEO), a former doctoral and post-doctoral student of ETH Zurich. Aeroscout has been working with RIEGL LiDAR sensor integrations for many years.