
Advanced Air Mobility

Textron eAviation moving forward with Nexus eVTOL

Textron eAviation reversed its way-and-see approach to AAM and announced it is continuing the development of a vastly modified Nexus eVTOL, with the support of other Textron companies, including recently acquired Pipistrel.

OUR TAKE

After a few months working behind close doors on the eAviation division AAM strategy, the company has restarted development of the Nexus that, probably, was never completely halted.

XTI hybrid-electric VTOL EIS delayed to 2027

XTI Aircraft pushed the EIS of its TriFan 600 VTOL to 2027 and moved from a hybrid-electric propulsion solution based on a single GE Catalyst turboprop to a more conventional configuration with two SAF-fueled turboshafts to reduce development and certification cost and risk.

OUR TAKE

XTI loses an important market differentiator by switching to all-turbine propulsion. Couple this with a program that is three years late and a year-old not completed-yet merger with Xeriant, and we wonder if there might trouble brewing.

Japan Airlines studies AAM services in Tokyo

Japan Airlines (JAL) teamed with Mitsubishi Estate and Kanematsu to study AAM use cases in the Tokyo metropolitan area. The multi-year project will start this year with several studies and conclude in 2024 with eVTOL demonstration flights.

OUR TAKE

AAM interest in Japan has revolved around the Expo 2025 in Osaka. However, we believe that Tokyo will be the largest market in the country. Expect the 2024 demo flights to be performed by Volocopter or Vertical Aerospace, JAL eVTOL suppliers

White House OSTP holds a summit on AAM

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) held a summit with NASA the FAA, Joby Aviation and other AAM industry participants to understand how the industry can help achieve goals for U.S. domestic policy, national security, climate and job creation.

OUR TAKE

We see the interest of the White House in the AAM industry as a positive. Due to the complexity of standing up an entire new industry, being on the same page with all levels of government is necessary to achieve success and maintain technology leadership.

The Rest of Aerospace

Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS F1 Team invests in SAF

Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS team, the winner of the last eight Formula One Constructors' Championships, has invested in Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) to reduce the team's environmental impact and its CO2 emissions on flights to Grand Prix locations and other business air travel.

OUR TAKE

F1 teams travel to over 20 worldwide destinations every year and many times their cars and material is moved by air cargo. We expect many more motorsport teams around the world to join Mercedes in buying SAF to reduce their overall emissions footprint.