

WEEKLY REWIND

OUR TAKE ON THE NEWS THAT CAUGHT OUR ATTENTION
IN ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY & THE REST OF AEROSPACE

ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY

- Beta Technologies closed a \$368 million private funding round, counting now Amazon as one of its investors - **The funding will allow Beta to continue in its development and certification work, as well as build a new engineering and production facility**
- Volocopter unveiled a new eVTOL, VoloConnect, a lift+cruise four-seater with a range of 60 mi, meant for longer routes, with a planned EIS of 2026 - **A new vehicle joins Volocopter's portfolio of vehicles, each one designed for a specific mission, and on its way to certification using existing components/technology**
- Additional details emerged in the Wisk/Archer civil lawsuit, with FBI and DOJ involvement as well as Wisk's request for a preliminary injunction prohibiting Archer from using or disclosing the trade secrets - **The case has reached a new level of urgency with the injunction, on which the court should rule shortly**
- Lilium partnered with Luxaviation Group, a large business jet and helicopter operator, to support its airline operations and customer experience in Europe - **Lilium continues to grow its list of partners on the operations side, taking risk out of that part of its business plan**
- Pipistrel revealed more details on its Miniliner, a 19-seater serving regional routes and, very likely, hydrogen-powered, with an expected EIS in 2028/2030 - **Pipistrel sees this aircraft as a disruptive force in regional aviation, opening more routes while significantly reducing operational costs**
- Skyports announced its participation in two eVTOL projects in Osaka, Japan, lending their experience on infrastructure for air taxis and drones - **Japan is laying the foundations to be one of the first AAM markets in the world, with Osaka aiming to have a vertiport in operation for the 2025 World Expo**
- EASA revealed the results of its study on UAM, showing that a majority of the respondents are excited and ready to try these new services - **This first-of-a-kind study performed in Europe will inform the rules for UAM operations that satisfy public needs**

THE REST OF AEROSPACE

- NASA will launch later this summer a laser communication demonstrator satellite, the Laser Communications Relay Demonstration (LCRD) - **With the increased amount of information gathered by spacecrafts, lasers could increase the amount of transferred data by one to two orders of magnitude**
- Aerion unexpectedly shut down operations last Friday, after not being able to secure funding for the program - **The development of a new commercial aircraft is extremely capital intensive and sources suggest that the development of the new GE engine became too much for the company funds**

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft will fundamentally change the way we travel”
Patrick Hansen, Group CEO, Luxaviation Group
