

# Advanced Air Mobility An Operator Perspective

27 Sep 2023



# Spright History

- In 1980, Roy Morgan founded Air Methods with one helicopter and a single hospital contract in Colorado. He pledged his commitment to **safety and outstanding patient care** as core principals to guide the company's success.
- Today, Air Methods maintains the same values while conducting over **150,000 transports**, across **450+ aircraft**, with a network of **300+ facilities** dispersed throughout **47 states**.
- In the spirit of innovation, Air Methods launched **Spright** as a concept in 2020 to support Air Methods' current and future customer base by offering **medical drone delivery services**.
- Applying a rich aviation history and unique understanding of a diverse and complex healthcare system, Spright is positioned to lead this emerging sector using the **right platform for the mission**.

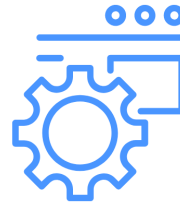


# Spright Process



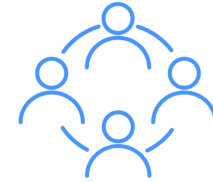
## Align with customer needs

Evaluate customer use case requirements and align it with the best aircraft to meet the specifications



## Personalize solution

Combine the selected aircraft with all required ground infrastructure and landing solutions as well as software integrations for workflow management and remote operations



## Turnkey implementation

Provide a turn-key end to end solution for the proposed use case and deliver it with a commercial service plan that includes all regulatory approvals, remote piloting, maintenance and updates

# Medical Solution Aircraft Spec's & Flight Profiles



Slate

Size	Payload
Small	6lb
<55lb	
Range	Speed
50mi	60mph
Max wind	
25kts	



Eiger

Size	Payload
Medium	10lb
<55lb	
Range	Speed
75mi	75mph
Max wind	
35kts	



Aero 2

Size	Payload
Large	88lb
<300lb	
Range	Speed
250mi	110mph
Max wind	
40kts	

# Spright's Regulatory Success

- 100+ years of cumulative aviation experience operating and managing commercial and military aviation services.
- Drones active in US Type Certification process with the Federal Aviation Administration.
- Spright holds an active Part 135 Certificate with the FAA's office in Scottsdale, AZ, allowing for commercial delivery operations via drone.
- Application pending for a 44807 Exemption while the Type Certification process continues.
- Spright operates under an accepted Safety Management System (SMS) – designed to meet Part 5 of 14 CFR - within the FAA's Voluntary Program.
- FAA Tech Assist Program – Remote Operations center development.
- EASA LUC certificate expected to be approved October of 2023.



Australian Government  
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

# Medical Delivery Services

- Spright enables healthcare access and minimizes supply challenges through unmanned delivery services for hospitals, clinics, and laboratories.
- Spright applies innovative technology to **increase transportation speed, reliability, and efficiency** by avoiding road and air traffic challenges that often slow the delivery of vital supplies.
- **Medical Logistics:** Hospitals < > Clinics
  - Blood supplies
  - Medications
  - Vaccines
  - Medical devices
- **Lab Logistics:** Collection Site < > Lab
  - Blood samples
  - Tissue samples
  - Diagnostic supplies
- **Pharmacy Logistics:** Warehouse < > Retail < > Retail
  - High-cost medications
  - Vaccines



# DoD Medical Delivery

## NORTHERN STRIKE – 10 Aug thru 14 Aug 2023

- Air Force Innovation Demonstration at the USAF Combat Readiness Training Center in Alpena, MI
- Drone delivery of Ketamine Pump to Field Medic (27-mile BVLOS flight – remotely operated)
- Expanding project to provide medical logistics:
  - Delivery of blood and durable medical equipment to the warfighter at the point of injury (Spark tank 2022 finalist project)
  - FOB re-supply from centralized location



# Operational Considerations





# Key Factors for Selection

In the HEMS and medical logistics world there are numerous factors to be considered:

- Payload
  - Weight
  - Volume
- Operational Readiness
  - Launch time
  - Turn-time
  - In-Service Rate
- Infrastructure Requirements

# Payload

Patient care during transport has changed dramatically over Air Methods' 40+ year history.

- The days of “scoop and go” are gone
- Patient care has evolved into more complex high-level of care during transport
  - ECMO – “Heart and Lung” machine
  - NICU Isolette
- Teams for support requiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> clinician and/or doctor on board
- New threshold of 1800lbs of payload capacity
  - Equipment
  - Patient size
  - Reduced fuel loads to accomodate



# Operational Readiness

Operational readiness has always been a key factor in improving patient outcomes.

- Launch time – How quickly can both the pilot and clinicians be ready to get up into the air
- Turn-time – How quickly can the aircraft and/or crew be ready to go again
  - Transport frequency
  - Infrastructure limitations
- In-Service Rate
  - Aircraft reliability
  - Down-time for scheduled maintenance



# Infrastructure

It is recommended that all hospitals construct a permanent, certified landing area on their property for safety, liability and transport issues, that should be safe for the users, patients, and staff.

- The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) worked with several industry groups in 1994 to develop FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5390-2 – Heliport Design to establish the minimum standards for designing a heliport facility. (Currently at revision D)
  - *The guidance provided in this AC is limited to heliports and helicopter operations. This AC does not specifically consider the characteristics of all vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) aircraft or unmanned aircraft. New aircraft entrants that have an interest in operating at heliports should work with the FAA Office of Airports and Flight Standards to demonstrate that their aircraft's operational and safety parameters comply with this AC, prior to operations.*
- Limited real estate and specialized infrastructure including re-fueling capabilities as an example may create challenges.



# Infrastructure

Limited space and new requirements may create additional challenges for consideration.

- Charging stations
  - Size and space requirements
  - Power grid capacity
- Maintenance/support requirements
  - Battery change logistics
- UAS support equipment
  - Delivery port
  - Charging/storage infrastructure



# Future of HEMS and Medical Logistics

Overall there is excitement about what the future can bring

- Greener/quieter operations
- More efficient platforms
  - Maintenance and Operational Expense reductions
- Improved safety levels
  - Automation
  - Crew workload reductions

QUESTIONS?

Thank you