



Learnings from testing Electra's blown-wing aircraft

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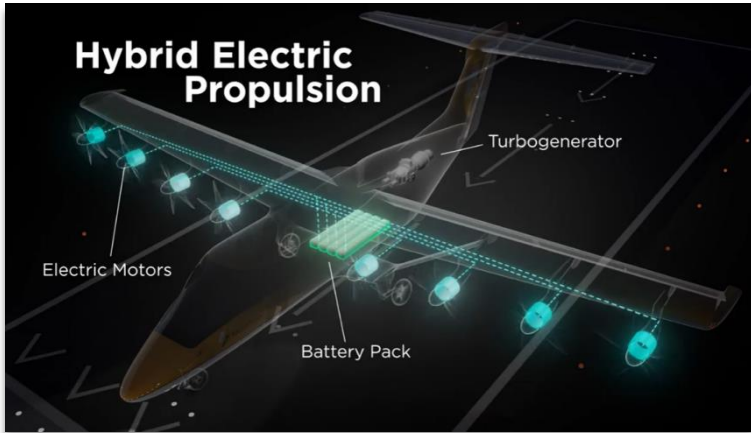
Cécile Casses

PROJECT DATE

April, 22nd, 2026



Why Did We Build a Hybrid Blown-Wing uShort Aircraft?



Mature Core Tech = No Miracles Required



Ground footprints comparable to vertical lift vehicles, with fixed-wing comparable costs.

Secondary benefits of distributed propulsion are reduced noise, increased safety, and reduced maintenance costs. Hybrid propulsion can reduce fuel burn/emission on short missions.



Direct Aviation - Three New Operational Models

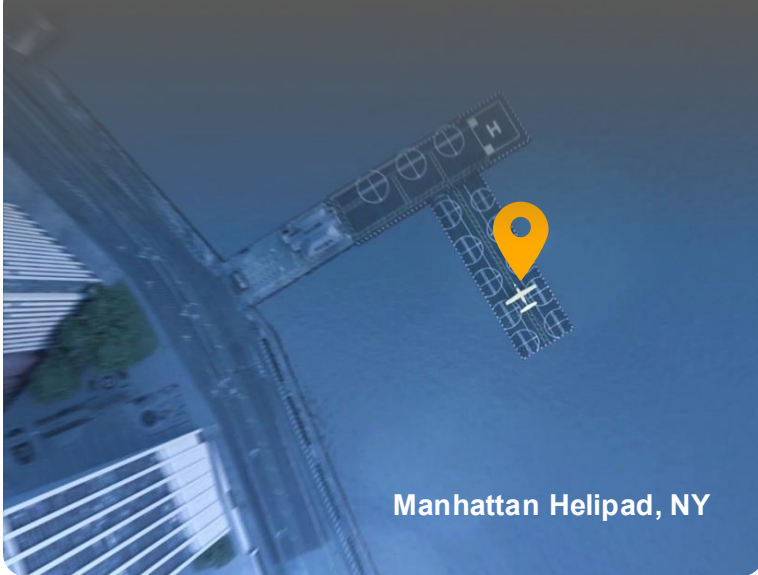
Innovation allows operations not possible with traditional aircraft



01

ADD NOVEL ACCESS POINTS

Helicopter-like convenience



Manhattan Helipad, NY

02

MAXIMIZE GA AIRPORTS

Good neighbor policy

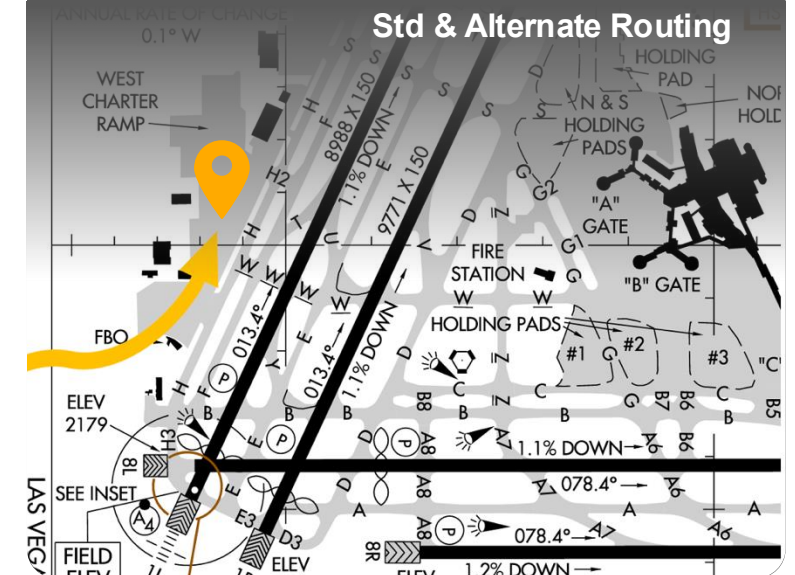


PROPRIETARY AND COMPETITION SENSITIVE

03

FEED LARGE AIRPORT HUBS

Congestion-free integration



The rule of 6

Balanced algorithm Required for Mesh Aviation Network



Access and Quiet



Payload and Range



Affordable and Safe

Electra Pursuing Three Paths to Unlock Airport Feeder Service



DOT eIPP

Foreword leaning, commercial airport feeder pilot programs 2026-2028



VA Smart Airspace Program

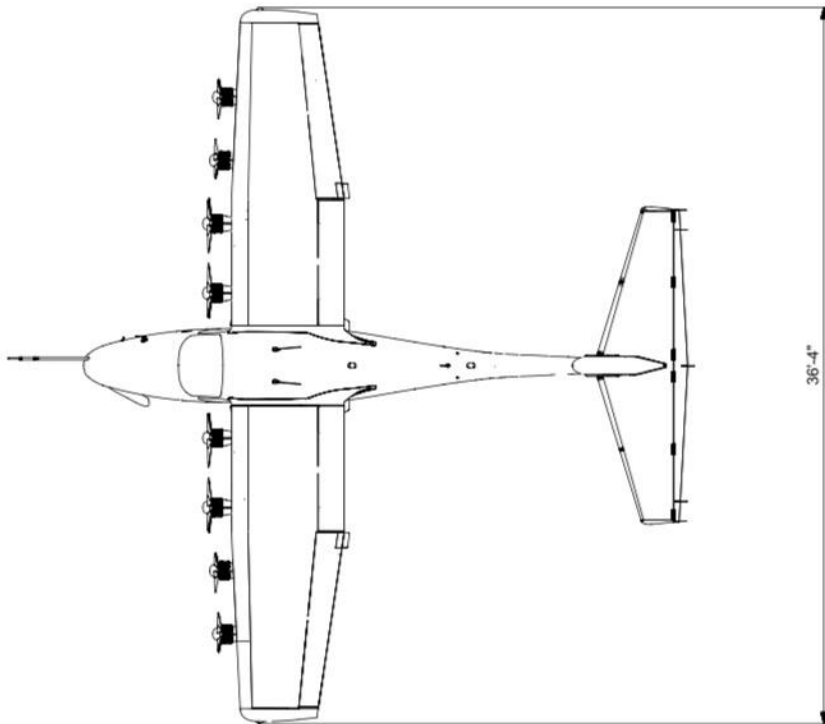
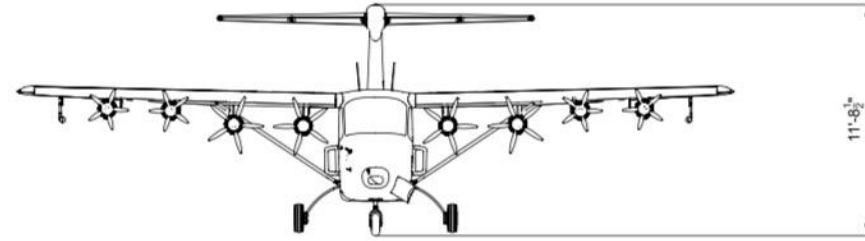
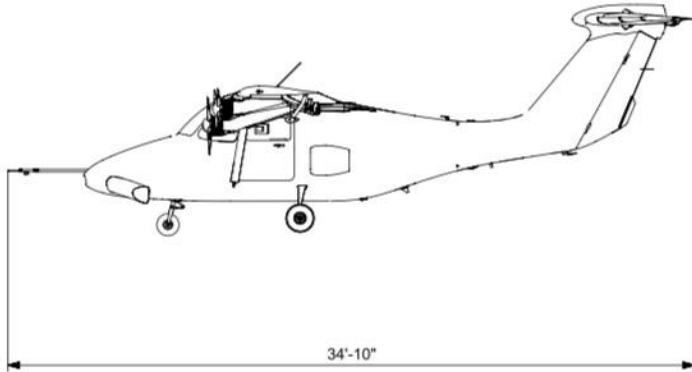
Novel instrument flight procedures (IFPs) for Ultra Short operations



FAA Tech Center

FAA-led testing of Ultra Short operations on various airport surfaces

EL2 Technology Demonstrator



EL-2 Key Parameters

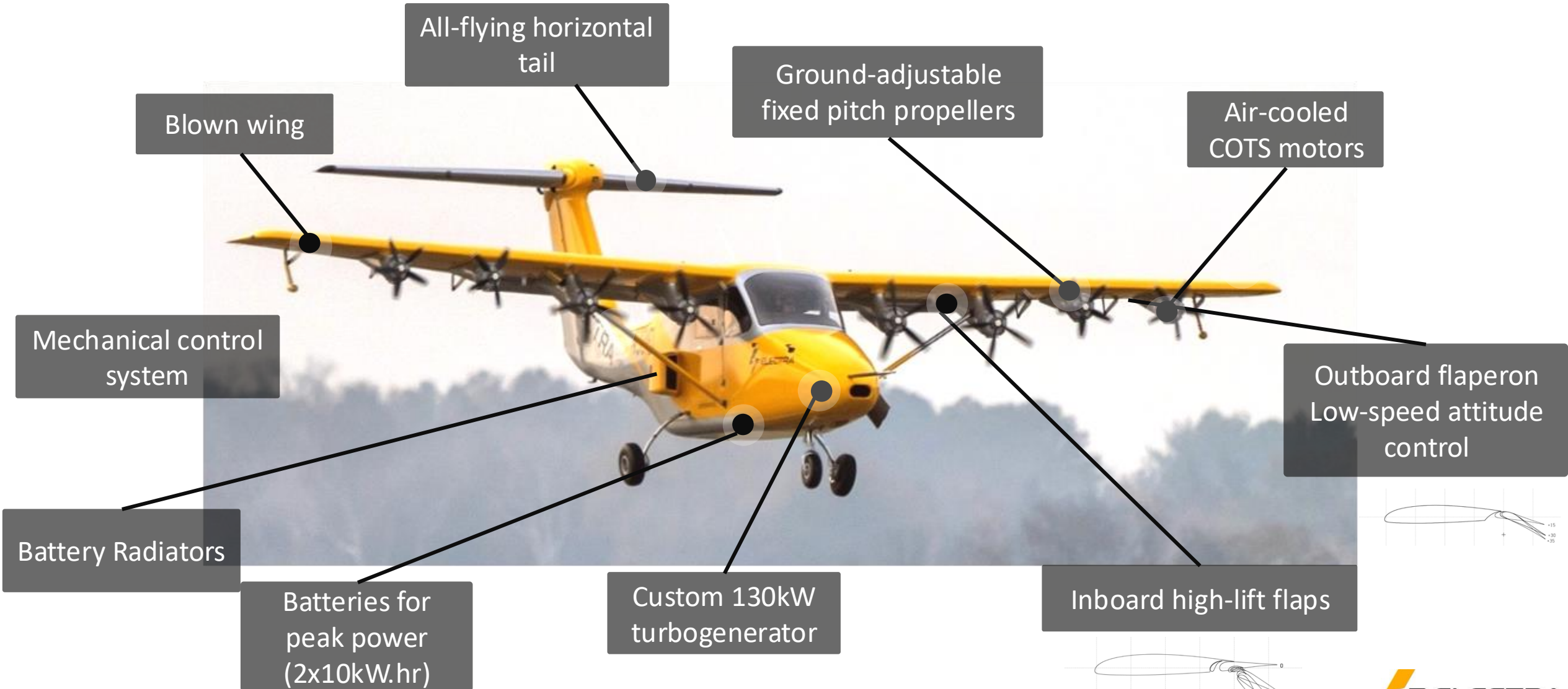
Max. Takeoff Weight	3100 lb
OEW	2603 lb
W/S	16.9 lbs/sq. ft
Span	36.3 ft
Static Thrust/Weight	0.60
Motor Power	8 x 45kW (360kW total)
Turbogenerator Power	120 kW _e
Battery Energy	2 x 11 kW-hr

Turbogenerator optimized for cruise power

Batteries boost power for takeoff and landing

Electra Technology Demonstrator

Reduction for blown wing handling qualities, precision flight controls



Blown-Wing

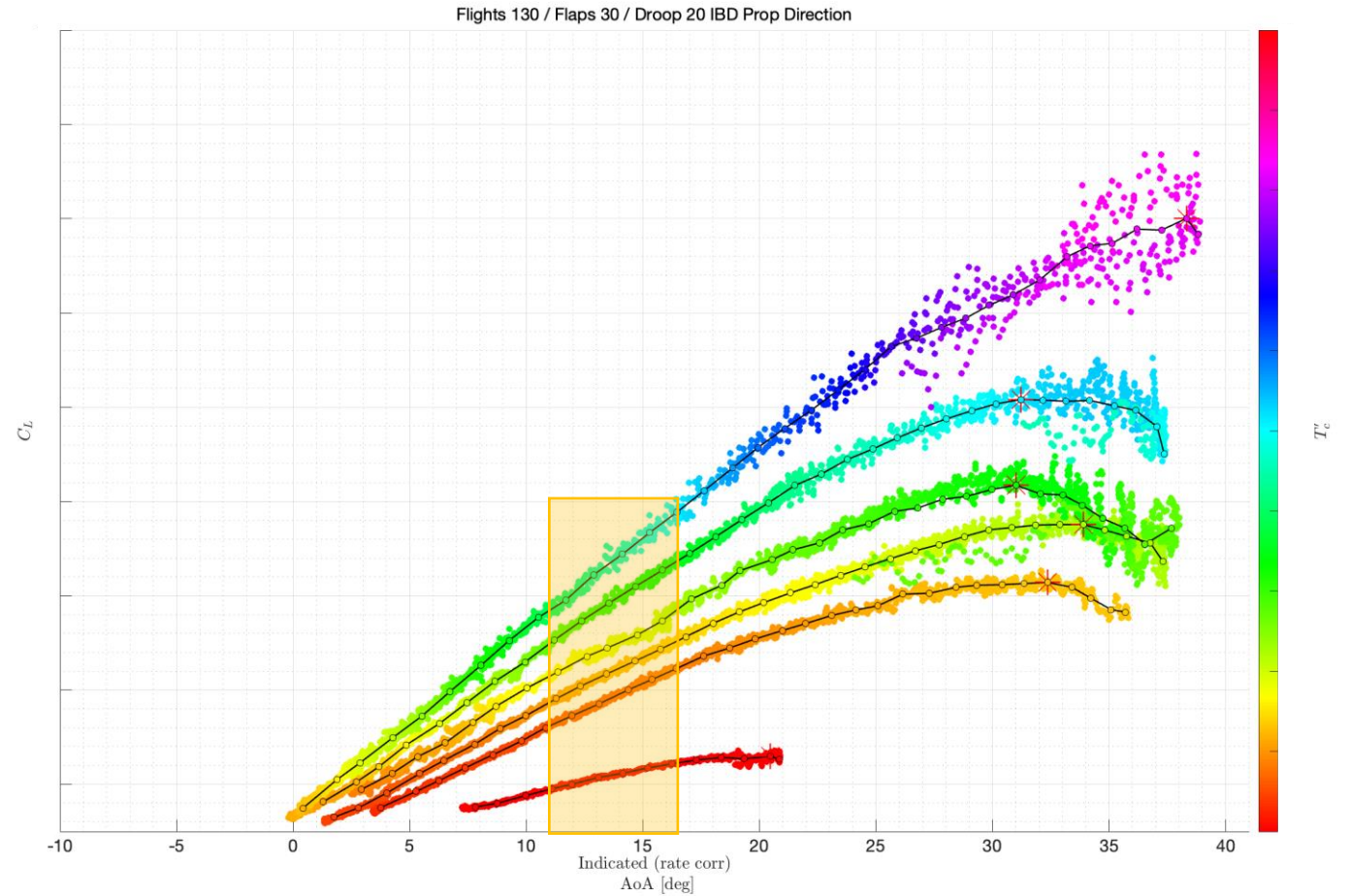


Quantifying the limits of the flight envelope and how stall angle varies with effective blowing level

Operating points are far from aerodynamic limits

Drives performance and control system design on landing

AoA measurement critical, had to bias air data probe on EL2 to measure the high aoas



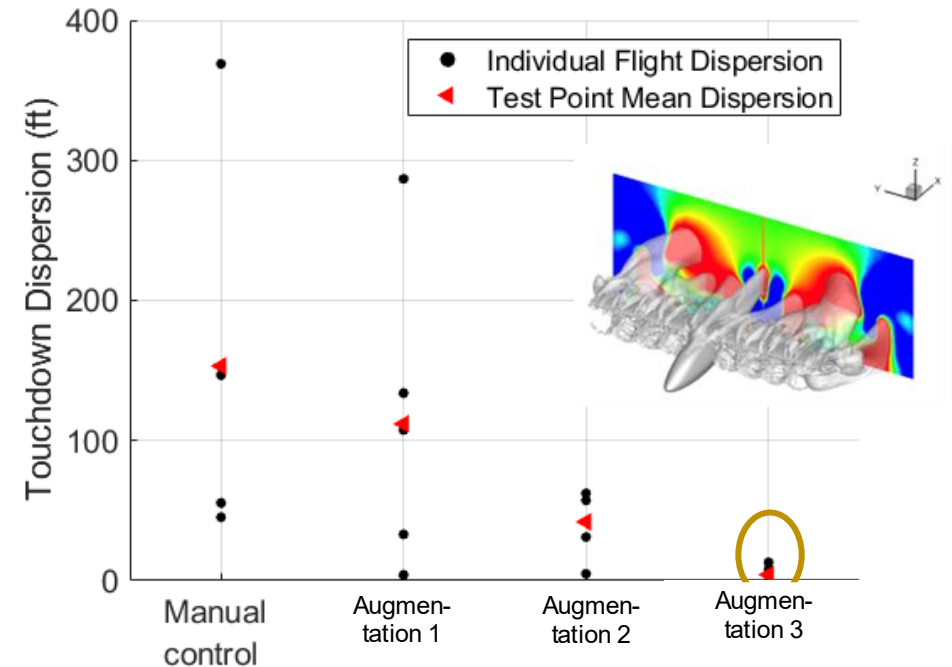
Ultra short operations are possible with large angle of attack margins to stall

Low speed flight controllable with augmentation



- ✓ **Camera** (visual guidance) with flight path prediction
- ✓ Full automated **envelope protection**
- ✓ **Autothrottle** with glide slope tracking
- ✓ **Fly-by-wire/stability augmentation** system mixes controls and motor rpms as needed to **simplify flight controls** for the pilot

Sim based on detailed, aerodynamic model



- ✓ Pilot augmentation systems enable **high precision, low-speed landings** with steep glide slopes

EL2 Flight Heritage Validates Tech Stack's Trust & Performance



Nov 2023 First Flight
200+ Operations
Dozen+ Passengers
NY to VA Geo Operations
Flap 65 Operations
~20 KIAS Slow Flight
26 KIAS Rotation
70'-90' Landing /TO rolls

First-ever flight by a U.S. government agency head on an electric aircraft (NASA Administrator Dec 2024)

First-ever flight by US Major Airline CEO

First-ever flight by U.S. General Officer on an electric aircraft

First-ever flight by DOD appointee on an electric aircraft



First-ever Ultra Short Commercial demo flight (Surf Air Aug 2025)



Multiple DOD Demos, Austere Surfaces



Myself!

EL2 validated Ultra Short safety, technical maturity, performance, flight quality

Commercial Demos



Bristow Demo

@ Snowshoe Ski Resort (Nov 2025)



Popular WV ski resort 4.5 hrs from DC
2,000+ skiers from DC per day in season

4,800ft, 10degC, Headwinds < 5kts
Grass runway of 400x100ft=120x30m

- Safe operations on range of surfaces (prepared, unprepared)
- Safe flight demonstrations (intentionally disabled motors, turbogenerator and one parallel battery pack)
- Various loading (forward and aft CG) and environmental conditions
- This year: get real limit for crosswinds operations and landing precision

Surfair Demo

@ Virginia Tech / Blacksburg (July 2025)



“With the EL9, we can get you there direct.”
“By not requiring all the infrastructure...
the opportunities are tremendous.”

2,000ft, 30degC, headwinds < 5kts
300x75ft=90x20m drone runway, access road
and grass field

Dual-Use Commercial Demo

Alongside Future Flag 2025-3 (Sept 2025)



Congestion-free airport integration for mainline
carriers and regional partners

EL2 takeoff and landings on non-runway
surfaces (e.g. taxiways and ramps)

SL, 25degC, Headwinds ~14kts
Taxiway

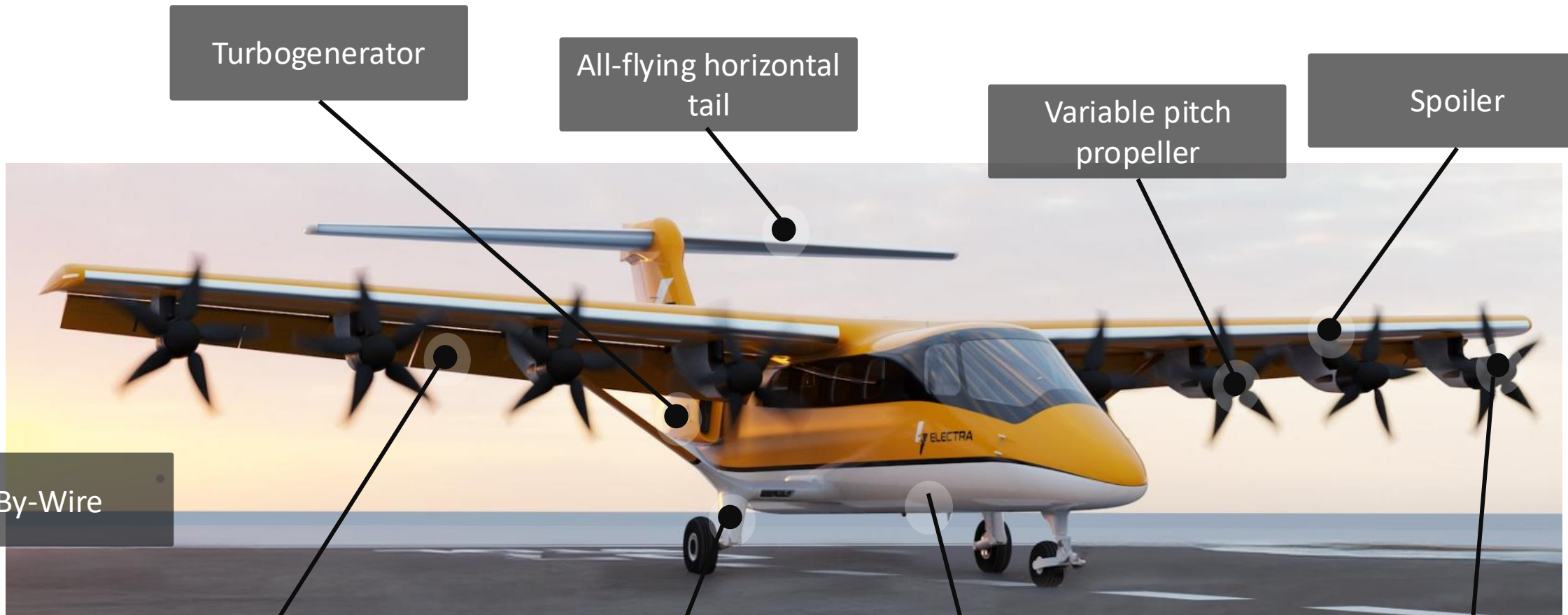
Operationally viable and
learnings for EL9 design
and vertiport design



From EL2 Prototype to EL9 Product



EL9 geometry



Turbogenerator

All-flying horizontal tail

Variable pitch propeller

Spoiler

Fly-By-Wire

Full-span flap

Oleo main gears

Batteries

Differential thrust



Introducing the EL9

Operational flexibility like a helicopter
Economics-Safety-Simplicity of fixed-wing



9 passengers
1 pilot + 2,700 lb payload

1,100 nm
Max range (+ 45 min reserve)

175 ktas
Max cruise speed

<75 dba on takeoff (300 ft)
comparable to urban background

~ 150 ft
Nominal takeoff and landing roll

Defining a new safety standard for Part 23 aircraft



EL9 goes further than current last-resort parachute and emergency autoland systems:



MULTI-LAYERED PROPULSION REDUNDANCY

Quad-redundant hybrid-electric propulsion system with 4 independent battery packs, plus turbogenerator



ADVANCED DIGITAL PILOT AIDS

Digital fly-by-wire control system with envelope protection, auto-land, and precision landing



ULTRA SHORT LANDING CAPABILITY

Divert anywhere. Only 300' of clearing needed to land safely, low energy 35 kt landing



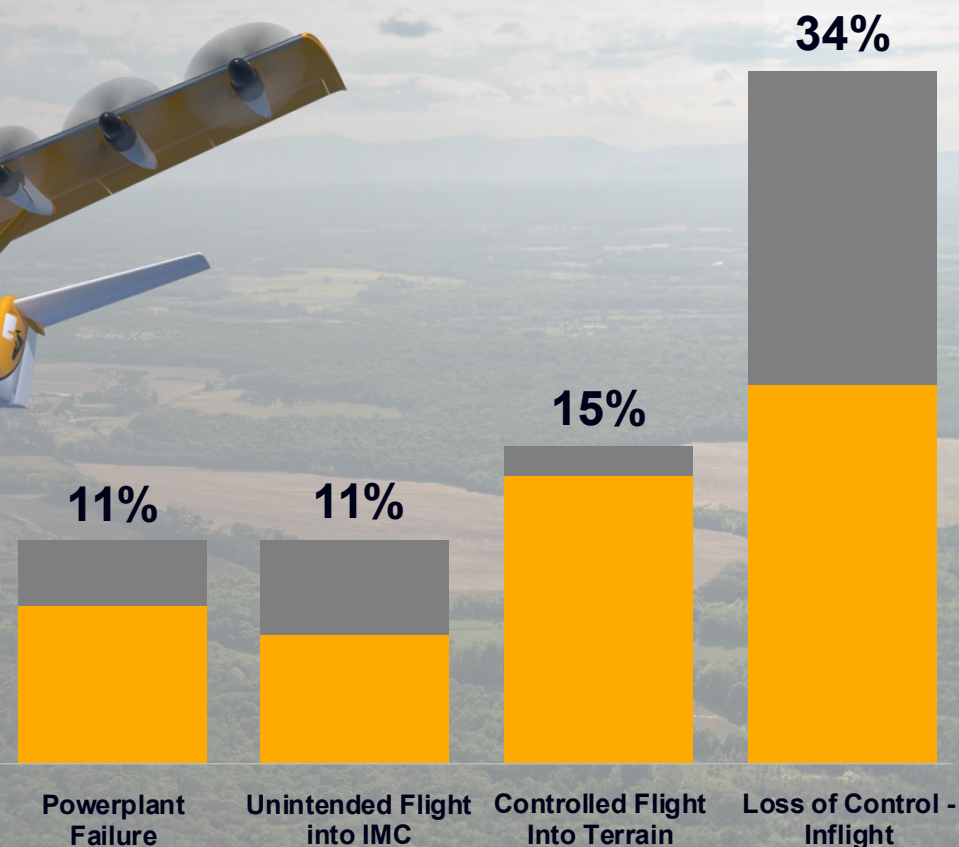
PART 121 CLASS SAFETY MONITORING

Real-time maintenance and performance data downlink to Part 135 SMS, HUMS, FOQA, and to better inform dispatch



Top Causes of Fatal Part 135 Accidents

● Airplane ● Helicopter



Laying the technological foundation for next generation of low-emissions transport aircraft.



Electra EL2

(2-seat prototype that will be used for Test Arena flying)



Electra EL9

(9-passenger full-scale product)

NASA Funds New Studies Looking at Future of Sustainable Aircraft

NOV 12, 2024



Hybrid-electric propulsion and aero-propulsive integration scale to enable step-change noise and emissions reductions on larger airframes.



Questions?



Pioneering air travel **without airports, emissions or noise**

www.electra.aero