



# AUTOFLIGHT STARTS IN EUROPE, TARGETING PROSPERITY I AIRTAXI CERTIFICATION BY 2025

News / Business aviation, Manufacturer



The continuity of global expansion of AutoFlight is marked with the establishment of its first location in Europe: a team led by former Airbus manager Mark R. Henning is now ramping up at Augsburg Airport in Germany. The team's first task is to achieve EASA certification for AutoFlight's airtaxi 'Prosperity I', an electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft with a range of approximately 250 kilometers. It can comfortably seat up to three passengers in addition to the pilot. The certification program for this airtaxi will begin this year, with completion expected by 2025.

A dedicated and growing team will work at the R&D and certification center in Augsburg. AutoFlight plans to establish additional locations for test and demonstration flights across Europe.

**Mr. Tian Yu, the company's founder, Chairman and CEO commented: "Prosperity I' is the company's first manned aircraft. Previously, the company's focus was on unmanned cargo drones. I am delighted to share that Mark Henning is joining AutoFlight in Europe to build our 'Prosperity I' airtaxi according to EASA safety standards."**

**Safety is and always will be AutoFlight's top commitment. The eVTOL pioneer is dedicated to making its airtaxi 'Prosperity I' as safe as a commercial airliner, and will work closely with European authorities.**

In January 2022, Mark Henning took on the position as Managing Director at AutoFlight Europe, which based in Augsburg/Germany. The aeronautical engineer and graduate of Munich's Technical University has worked in the aviation industry for 26 years. Mr. Henning started his career at DASA and held leadership positions at EADS and Eurocopter. Previously, he was Manager for Governmental Business at the helicopter division of Airbus and head of product EC135. He has also held positions in program management, strategy, production and development and has worked for the Airbus Group in Indonesia, South Korea, Israel, South Africa and the United States.



Mark Henning, Managing Director at AutoFlight Europe commented: "We are bringing aircraft construction back to Augsburg, creating a high-tech location and jobs as we build drones and create a completely new market segment for airtaxis. What I really like about AutoFlight and 'Prosperity I' is the underlying simple concept. Simplicity translates into safety and efficiency."

The simplicity of AutoFlight's design is the so-called 'lift and cruise' – configuration. It combines superior range and safety with low technical complexity, making it affordable.

AutoFlight is one of the earliest tech companies in China to make autonomous eVTOL, including large payload logistics and autonomous unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Logistics UAVs were introduced first. AutoFlight completed more than 10,000 takeoffs and landings in adverse weather

conditions. The company is now ready to build its people carrier 'Prosperity I' and will show the progress made in its transition tests in a few weeks.



18 JANUARY 2022

**ARTICLE LINK:**

<https://50skyshades.com/index.php/news/manufacturer/autoflight-starts-in-europe-targeting-prosperity-i-airtaxi-certification-by-2025>