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# GO-ROUND

## ALDINGA AERO CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2023.

Editor: Tim Baron

**Club Member, Colin McKay flying overhead Mannum January 2023, viewing the Murray river's flooding progress down stream**



Club Executive



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Volocopter GmbH  
Bruschal, Germany  
[www.volocopter.com](http://www.volocopter.com)

Volocopter GmbH was founded in 2011 in Karlsruhe, Germany, by Alexander Zosel and Stephen Wolf with the intent of making an electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) multi-copter aircraft for fast and efficient urban travel. On Oct. 21, 2011, the company made history by making the first crewed flight in the world of a multicopter, named the VC1. The multicopter was flown in southwest Germany by co-founder, primary designer, inventor and builder, Thomas Senkel. The Guinness Book of World Records [has the historic flight](#) listed on their website. The company was originally known as "e-volo GmbH" until being renamed to "Volocopter GmbH" in July 2017 and the company is now based in Bruchsal, Germany.

The [Volocopter 2X](#) is an electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) multicopter that is a refined version of the [VC200](#), with a limited number of pre-production prototypes now under development for future sale.

The 2X is completely electric and quieter than the smallest helicopter by a factor of seven. It has six Y shaped struts emanating from its axle. The intersection of each Y has a vertical non-tilting propeller and 12 more are at the ends of the struts which is reinforced with a perimeter ring. These 18 propellers and 3-phase PM synchronous brushless DC electric motors are powered by nine batteries. The vehicle weighs 640 lb (290 kg) and can carry a two passenger payload of 350 lb (160 kg). It has demonstrated an endurance of 27 minutes of flight, for a range of 17 miles (27 km). It has a cruise speed of 55 kt (100 k/hr). It is 10.5 ft (3.2 m) long, 7 feet (2.15 m) high and has a tip-to-tip distance of 30 ft (9.15 m).



Autonomous flight is possible for the Volocopter 2X. The aircraft has a single joystick and was designed to be intuitive to fly. If the joystick is released automatic systems keep it in a stable position. Systems include fiber optic fly-by-wire. It also has an emergency ballistic parachute. The 2X is designed for urban mobility and Volocopter envisions units being reserved through the use of an app.

In 2016, it was the first multicopter given crewed flight certification. Its first uncrewed flight was in September 2017 and its first crewed flight in January 2018 allowing Volocopter to claim this as the world's first 2-seat electric VTOL aircraft.

Volocopter will be manufacturing the aircraft, running the air taxi service, building Voloports, allow passengers to request a flight through an app, will not be selling their aircraft to individuals and will offer air taxi urban travel at competitive prices. The program is supported by Intel's Ascending Technologies, Daimler AG, DG Flugzeugbau GmbH and others. Volocopter announced in February 2020 that it had raised a total of €122 million (approx. \$145M USD) since inception.

**Volocopter stated in November 2019 that the VC1, VC2, VC200 and 2X prototypes have collectively made over 1,000 test flights, including in Dubai and Singapore. As of October 2022, the Volocopter 2X is still being used for flight testing.**

Around 40 people enjoyed the Sun Downers event on 20th January. The music was live, the BBQ was ably cooked by the Club President and enjoyed by all. It was a very fine evening and a successful club event.



Answers to January quiz.

1 Why must a pilot not use ailerons during a stall recovery

Answer: It can cause a wing drop in the direction opposite to the desired direction of roll ??

2. What is Balance and how is it indicated

Answer : Straightness to the airflow ( left and right ) Indicated by balance ball being centred.

February quiz

1. If you donate blood, it is recommended not to fly for ?? How many days

2. A pilot must not fly for at least ??? ( how many ) hours after his last alcoholic drink