

Skyports raises £5.35 million in Series A funding

Thursday 5 December, 2019

London, United Kingdom, Thursday 5 December 2019 – [Skyports](#), the urban air mobility infrastructure provider and drone delivery operator, has raised £5.35 million in Series A funding. Jointly led by [Deutsche Bahn Digital Ventures](#) (DBDV) and [Groupe ADP](#), the round also includes significant new investment from [Levitte Capital](#) following their seed investment in the company in January 2018.

This capital allows Skyports to continue its programme of acquiring sites for passenger and cargo vertiports in cities around the world, including Singapore and Los Angeles. Following the Singapore showcase of the world's first passenger vertiport in October – the [VoloPort](#) – in partnership with air taxi manufacturer [Volocopter](#), Skyports has received substantial interest from landlords in the city state and other cities around the world.

Skyports also plans to further develop its drone delivery business. Building on its acquisition of multiple drone platforms to suit operations in urban and rural environments, Skyports will expand the team for full commercialisation of its delivery services.

“We are delighted to welcome strategic investors with a long-term vision for the company,” said **Duncan Walker, Chief Executive Officer of Skyports**. “Our investors bring expertise in mobility, infrastructure and airport operations. Their significant balance sheets and strong leadership in their respective markets allow Skyports to consolidate its leading position in the industry in these early stages and through to permanent commercial operations in multiple markets.”

“Vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) vehicles are a new expression of airport activity – infrastructure, vehicle handling and passenger experience – and we are setting ourselves up to play a leading role in the development of Urban Air Mobility in the Paris Region and internationally through our 25 airports worldwide,” said **Edward Arkwright, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Groupe ADP**. “This strategic partnership will allow us to develop a deeper understanding of the emerging VTOL market and will provide strong synergies through Skyports’ expertise in urban areas.”

The urban aviation market is anticipated to be worth c. \$1.5 trillion by 2040, \$850 billion of which will be taken up by passenger vehicles and \$400 billion^[1] by the transportation of goods by drone. Significant investment has gone into the vehicles and research and development enabling technology whilst urban air mobility (UAM) infrastructure is under-invested. Without the take-off and landing infrastructure in place, the nascent UAM industry will fail to realise its market and socio-economic potential.

DBDV and Groupe ADP will take seats on the Skyports Board. Skyports has the option for a second close in the Series A round in the near future.

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Notes to Editors

1. About Skyports

Skyports is connecting the world through our skies by building and operating critical infrastructure for urban air mobility and managing end to end drone deliveries.

Skyports is working with the leading electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) passenger and cargo vehicle manufacturers around the world to secure, design, build, own and operate vertiports enabling safe and efficient flight operations within urban and suburban environments.

In addition, Skyports develops, implements and operates end-to-end cargo drone deliveries within the medical, e-commerce and logistics sectors overcoming inefficiencies associated with traditional transportation methods.

Based in London, United Kingdom, Skyports has projects operating in multiple continents, including in Europe, North America, Asia and Africa.

skyports.net

2. About Deutsche Bahn Digital Ventures

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Related Keywords:

Air Taxi :: Urban Air Mobility ::
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Deutsche Bahn Digital Ventures (DBDV) is the corporate venture capital unit of Europe's largest passenger and cargo railway operator, Deutsche Bahn. DBDV invests in new data-based business models in the fields of smart mobility, smart logistics and smart cities which utilize Big Data, Artificial Intelligence (AI) or the Internet of Things (IoT). The start-ups are not only gaining venture capital, but also get access to experts, DBs data, customers and markets.

deutschebahnventures.de

3. About Groupe ADP

Groupe ADP develops and manages airports, including Paris-Charles de Gaulle, Paris-Orly and Paris-Le Bourget. In 2018, the group handled through its brand Paris Aéroport more than 105 million passengers and 2.3 million metric tonnes of freight and mail at Paris-Charles de Gaulle and Paris-Orly, and more than 176 million passengers in airports abroad through its subsidiary ADP International. Boasting an exceptional geographic location and a major catchment area, the Group is pursuing its strategy of adapting and modernizing its terminal facilities and upgrading quality of services; the group also intends to develop its retail and real estate businesses. In 2018, group revenue stood at €4,478 million and net income at €610 million.

groupeadp.fr

4. About Levitate Capital

Levitate Capital is a venture firm focused on next-generation air mobility. They see the coming revolution in how people use and experience aviation for transportation, logistics, and other use cases as one of the profound transformations of modern society. Their investments cover a broad range of ventures, from enabling systems that will let these craft fly electrically, autonomously, quietly and safely to building and operating the new air vehicles as well as business models that will complement aerial mobility networks of the future.

levitatecap.com

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[1] Morgan Stanley (2018) *Urban Air Mobility – Flying Cars: Investment Implications of Autonomous Urban Air Mobility*

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