## Airbus Zephyr High Altitude Pseudo-Satellite (HAPS) UAS for Remote Sensing Applications

**19th International Diffuse Reflectance Conference Chambersburg, PA** 

DEFENSE AND SPACE

2 Aug 2018

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### **Zephyr Characteristics**

The Zephyr High Altitude Pseudo Satellite program has been running for over ten years. Accomplishments to date: 11 flight campaigns, 1000 hours flight time, three World Records



#### Military and Commercial Use Cases Demonstrated

Characteristic	Zephyr S	Zephyr T
Wingspan (m / ft)	25 / 82	33 / 108
Gross mass (kg / lbs)	Less than 75kg / 165	140 / 300
Fuel type	solar-electric / rechargeable	solar-electric / rechargeable
	batteries	batteries
Duration without refueling (days)	>100 days	>100 days
Range (nm per day)	Greater than ~1,000	Greater than 1,250
True air speed at operating altitude (kts)	45-80	55-95
Status	In production	In development

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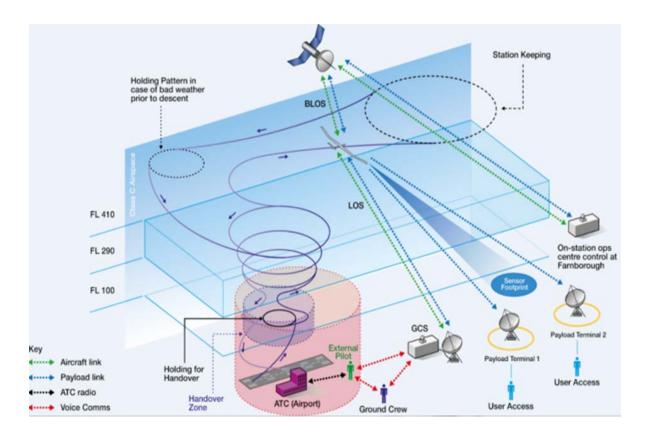
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## **Command and Control**

Zephyr launches/recovers and ascends to/descends from the stratosphere under Line Of Sight (LOS) control from the launch site; switches to Beyond Line Of Sight (BLOS) control for transit to/from and ops in target area.





**BLOS** Operations Center



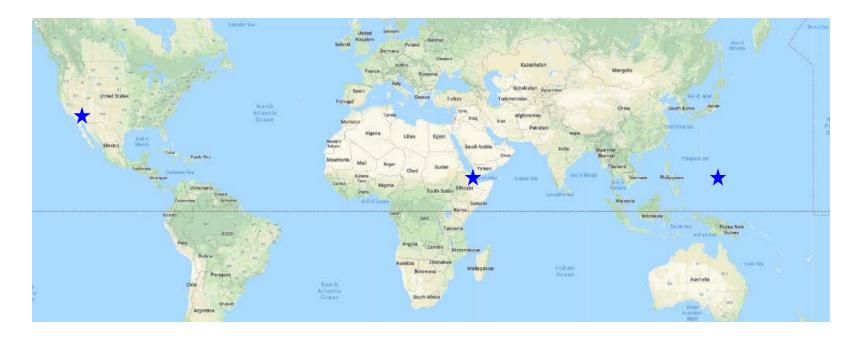
Ground Control Station (GCS)

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### **Global Operations**

- Launch and recovery (L&R) from set of strategic sites selected for their benign year round weather
- Aircraft transits through stratosphere (above traffic and weather) to the area of interest at 1,000 NM/day pace
- 100 day flight duration = global reach and theater maneuver with minimal forward footprint in secure locations



Locations depicted here are notional and meant only to illustrate the concepts proposed in this briefing



## Zephyr Value



#### Persistence and Coverage Area

### Inner ring – 1 day transition Outer ring – 2 day transition

100 day flight duration + 1,000 NM/day transit  $\rightarrow$  96 day persistent operations at 2 day ring



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## **Zephyr Payloads**

Zephyr can support a variety of sensor payloads including:

- Surveillance
  - High resolution EO
  - SW / MW / LWIR
  - Lidar
  - Hyperspectral
  - SAR
- Communications
  - LTE
  - Handset to Handset relay 150 NM range using standard issue handsets with no modification
  - EM survey instrumentation



#### Customer Provided Payload: 6-12 months for integration / flight ready subject to payload TRL



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## **Transition to Production and Operations**

#### **Production Version Zephyr-S Initial Flight Test**

- Jun Aug 2018, Yuma Proving Grounds
- First Flight Underway!!!
  - Takeoff: 0831 Eastern 11 July 2018
  - Flight Duration To Date: 22 days+1 hr (529 flt hrs)

Kelleher Production Facility (UK) Operational

#### **Operational Concept Demonstrations**

- 4Q 2018, Australia L&R Site
- Several payloads / customers

#### **US** Activities

- Actively pursuing business
- Establish US operations
- Airspace Authorizations

#### Continual Product Improvement Zephyr T Development



Kelleher Production Facility



Ready for Service



## Thank You

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