



## REACHING PEOPLE **ANYWHERE**

Dear friends, this is a story about some sound achievements. We wished to operate in Africa, and so we did. Together with partners, we demonstrated to representatives of UN and Red Cross to satisfaction.

# Let's grow in 2024!

The Wings For Aid team



Ground Control Station ready for transport

trolley and move from HQ in Hilversum to DLR's drone test center in Cochstedt.

Energised and motivated by the successful flights in 2023, we forge the plans for 2024. We aim to have 2 aircraft operational and two in-country demonstration missions completed. Why not? We pack a Ground Control System on a



Aircraft improvements at DLR in Cochstedt (DE)

The next aircraft is ready at FlySynthesis in Italy. We run through the acceptance process and bring it to the next station: Orange Aerospace in The Netherlands,



Acceptance of MiniFreighter 8/500FW SN3 at FlySynthesis



EWIS system integration at Orange Aerospace (NL)

where the avionics and the wiring harness will be integrated. Rhenus livery has been ordered, too.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY



VIP arrival at DLR Cochstedt

We receive VIP guests at DLR Cochstedt, who arrive from The Netherlands in style. Meanwhile, at HQ in Hilversum, intern Melanie is working on an algorithm-based tool for flight data analysis.



Demo flight for WFP teams

More guests join in Germany: a delegation from the Drone/UAS teams of the World Food Programme in Rome – Honourable people of knowledge and experience.

# MARCH

We have decided to push innovation forward, hence at Orange Aerospace a workshop is held on the conceptual design of the (future) MiniFreighter 2-series. Maintenance is performed on the current aircraft, more and more



Conceptual design MF2-series at Orange Aerospace (NL)



GCS mockup testing at Amazilia Aerospace (DE)

structured and documented. In Munich, we discuss and test new joysticks and the improved design of the Ground Control Station. Pieter (Deployment, OEM repr.) and Tim (ICT) join the core team.

# APRIL





MiniFreighter-e blended wing in X-plane

Ronald van Gent flies another innovation, the future MiniFreighter 'blended wing', in Xplane. This aircraft is to be fully electric and is quite pretty, too. We receive the sea container MiniFreighter SN002 at Rhenus in Cape Town and celebrate the safe arrival with the team.



Ready to go at Rhenus Cape Town

MAY

The South African Air Force reviews our application for Beyond Visual Line Of Sight (BVLOS) flights thoroughly during Safety Review Board meetings. Dialogues held, conditions documented, approval granted. Great learnings.

Test flights are conducted at airstrip "Zeekoevlei" close to Bredasdorp, not far from Cape Town. We drop 5-liter water bottles, four per box, from an altitude of 100 metres.

JUNE



Smooth operations at Zeekoevlei (SA)



After drop at Zeekoevlei









Demo for South African Air Force

Great successes. We fly 10 kilometres away from the GCS on Satcom without issues. We drop the boxes with 5-litre water bottles without problems. We host invites from the World Food Programme,

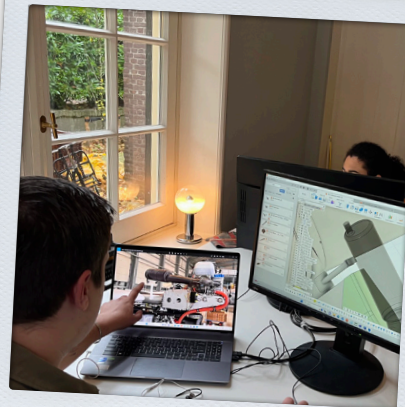


ops above Zeekoevlei (SA)

who give positive feedback. We are in Africa, and this is getting towards operations; this is what we have been working towards from the start.

JULY

In Hilversum, Gijs works relentlessly on the integration and updates of 3D drawings. Bad news in Italy: FlySynthesis is part of an acquisition process that includes months of company closure. By the end of the month, meetings start again with Amazilia in Munich on system design and redundancy.



Updating the 3D drawings

AUGUST



Rhenus video team at work

September is packed and things run in parallel: Aircraft improvements and continued flights in South Africa, while a camera team of Rhenus shoots a movie of 'their' MiniFreighter in Germany. Barry presents to the 'JARUS plenary meeting', a 15-year young group of UAS rulemaking professionals gathering in Ottawa, Canada. At our booth at DroneX in London, we meet many people and our insurance brokers from Noventas, who bring their underwriting colleagues along.



DroneX, London

SEPTEMBER

Barry works with Kenyan customs officials to smoothen (that is, fast-track) the import of SN2 into the country. We have agreed with Astral to have it on display for a presidential gathering in time, and so we will. A fresh Memorandum of Understanding is signed with Astral Aerial in Nairobi, represented by Sanjeev and Kush Gadhia.



Head of Verification  
(Mombassa, KE)



Presidential event (Kericho, KE)

OCTOBER



Aviation for All,  
(Amsterdam, NL)

We sponsor an event of the Aviation for All foundation in Amsterdam. The theme is "Women in Aviation", and three of our star-interns feature on big banners.



Wings For Aid drop zone  
assistant

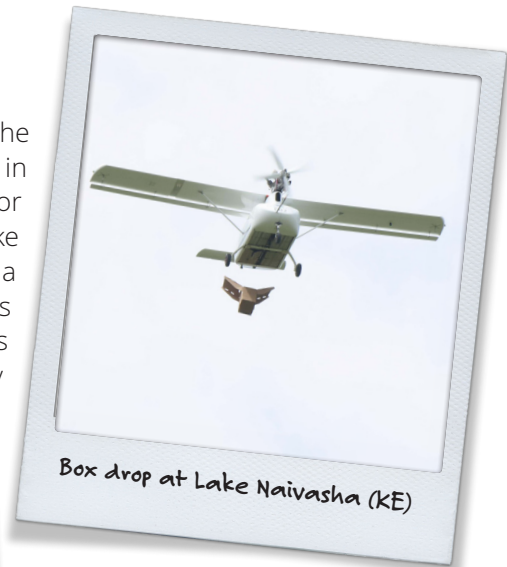
In The Hague, the VanBerlo/ Accenture team has completed the Digital Drop Zone assistant. It features off-line, built-in picture processing power to deliver information on drop zone activity and safety.

NOVEMBER

Some 10 years ago, I heard on the radio that the distribution of aid in Somalia was problematic. Wings For Aid was born. Now we are at Lake Naivasha, Kenya, in the middle of a wild life resort and the team runs a seamless operation. Delegations come over, including NL-Embassy staff, and UNHAS



Successful drop at Lake Naivasha



Box drop at Lake Naivasha (KE)

and Red Cross representatives. 10-litre water bottles and maize are dropped intact. Sandra Legg, Air ops Somalia: "this is great and what we need".

For us, this is the closure we needed this year, to move fast forward to people in need in 2024.

DECEMBER



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[www.wingsforaid.org](http://www.wingsforaid.org)