

## DRONAMICS joins UK's first medical drone distribution network

*DRONAMICS joins consortium for powering medical deliveries for NHS Scotland*

*The project has secured £10.1 million in funding from the Future Flight Challenge at UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)*

*The consortium is working to deliver what will be the first national drone network that can transport essential medicines, bloods and other medical supplies throughout Scotland including to remote communities*

**LONDON, 1 August 2022** - DRONAMICS, the world's leading middle-mile cargo drone developer and operator, is to take part in the CAELUS project - a consortium of partners set to revolutionise the way in which healthcare services are delivered in Scotland. CAELUS is a consortium led by AGS Airports that will develop and trial the UK's first national distribution network using drones to transport essential medicines, blood, organs, and other medical supplies throughout Scotland.

CAELUS (Care & Equity – Healthcare Logistics UAS Scotland) has successfully acquired over £10 million (\$12 million) in funding from the Future Flight Challenge at UK Research and Innovation (UKRI). The CAELUS consortium is in the process of establishing a national drone delivery network for medical supplies across Scotland. CAELUS, which consists of 16 partners, including AGS Airports (Glasgow and Aberdeen Airports), NHS Scotland, the University of Strathclyde, National Air Traffic Services (NATS), is developing a national drone network for medical distribution in Scotland.

The project launch was announced at Farnborough Airshow. DRONAMICS will be collaborating with the consortium to power time-critical medical deliveries in the middle-mile using their “Black Swan” cargo drone, capable of carrying up to 350kg at a range of up to 2,500km. The flight trials are scheduled to be completed by 2024.

Fiona Smith, AGS Airports Group Head of Aerodrome Strategy and CAELUS Project Director, said, *“The CAELUS project is set to revolutionize the way in which healthcare services are delivered in Scotland. A drone network can ensure critical medical supplies can be delivered more efficiently, it can reduce waiting times for test results and, more importantly, it can provide equity of care between urban and remote rural communities.”*

Svilen Rangelov, CEO and Co-founder of DRONAMICS, said, *“This is an excellent opportunity for us to kick-off operations in the UK by leveraging our authorization experience in the EU with EASA. The flight trials for NHS Scotland would also validate our ongoing product development towards delivering medical goods. We have seen that our solution could be vital for remote communities in Scotland, drastically decreasing the transit time for medical supplies.”*

The project is funded under the Future Flight Challenge, the UKRI-led investment program that has committed £125 million (\$149 million) into the next wave of aviation tech.

### **The CAELUS consortium comprises:**

AGS Airports Limited

NHS Scotland

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NATS	University of Strathclyde
Connected Places Catapult	ANRA Technology
Atkins	Arup
Cellnex UK	Commonplace Digital
DGP Intelsius	Dronamics
Plane Finder	Skyports
The Drone Office	Trax International

## # ENDS #

Further detail including video content on Project CAELUS is available at [AGS | Drones \(agsairports.co.uk\)](https://agsairports.co.uk/AGS-Drones)

**About DRONAMICS:** DRONAMICS is the leading developer and operator of large, long-range drones built specifically for cargo. Its flagship Black Swan is able to carry 350kg at a distance of up to 2,500 km / 1,550 miles, enabling same-day shipping over very long distances for a variety of industries, from pharma to food, from e-commerce to spare parts. Designed with fuel efficiency in mind, the Black Swan can operate on up to 90% lower emissions than alternative modes of transport, including air freight.

The company's fast-growing team includes some of the world's top aerospace and logistics experts and is Europe's first licensed drone cargo airline. Dronamics is the winner of numerous awards for innovation and is IATA's first Strategic Partner for drones worldwide.

### About AGS Airports

AGS Airports Limited was established in 2014 to invest in Aberdeen International, Glasgow and Southampton airports and is the second largest airport group in the UK.

AGS Airports Limited is jointly held by Ferrovial (via Faero UK Limited) and AGS Ventures Airports Limited, an entity controlled by Macquarie European Infrastructure Fund 4 LP.

### Future Flight Challenge

The Future Flight Challenge from UK Research and Innovation is a £125 million investment designed to deliver the third revolution in aviation. By establishing a vision for the future aviation system using new classes of electric/hydrogen and autonomous vehicles we are transforming how we connect people, deliver goods and provide services. We are working towards demonstrating the safe integration and operation of drones, advanced air mobility and regional aircraft, along with advancements in electrification and autonomy. We encourage businesses, regulators and public bodies to share knowledge and resources with each other to bring these innovative air vehicles into service safely and practically.

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