

USTRANSCOM Commander Gen. Fraser meets with Mr. Igor Pasternak to discuss the Aerocraft.

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Picture: Gen. Fraser at the Aerocraft Assembly Facility



Hybrid airship technology may be the wave of the future for USTRANSCOM. Earlier this week, General Fraser visited Aerocraft to see first-hand the development of hybrid airship technology. "As this technology continues to evolve, hybrid airships may one day add to our options for delivering sustainment on the battlefield or in response to a humanitarian crisis."

General Fraser met with Mr. Igor Pasternak, CEO of Aerocraft, during a visit to the company on January 26, 2012. Aerocraft is researching hybrid airship technology for military and commercial use -- and an example of the importance of military-commercial partnerships in the transportation industry.¹

The Aerocraft is designed to offer new capabilities to the warfighter by deploying composite loads of personnel and equipment "from fort to fight". The vehicle's design would allow supporting a multitude of missions including search and rescue, emergency relief, airborne hospital and many others. It would also offer significant benefits to oil and gas exploration and wind energy industries amongst many others that operate in remote and ecologically sensitive areas by allowing a constant access to operating sites with a minimum environmental impact.

The uniqueness of the Aerocraft, in comparison with conventional and hybrid airships, is in its ability to control lift in all stages of air and ground operations, including the ability to offload cargo without taking on board external ballast.

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About the Aerocraft: The Aerocraft is a new type of *Rigid Variable Buoyancy Air Vehicle* designed to control lift in all stages of air or ground operations, including the ability to off-load heavy payloads without the need to re-ballast. The key features of the Aerocraft include a rigid structure, vertical takeoff and landing (access remote locations) and operate at low speed, in hover and from unprepared surfaces.

About Aerocraft: As a world leader in producing Lighter-Than-Air aircrafts, Aerocraft is now pushing the boundaries of transportation technology. The company's operations involve the research & development, production and operation of a complete family of Aerocraft-branded air vehicles used for government and commercial applications. These include FAA type certified Aerocraft 40D Sky Dragon airships, advanced tethered aerostat systems and a new type of transport air vehicle called the Aerocraft.

¹ Source USTRANSCOM Facebook Page