Spright Q&A

• What is Spright?
  o Spright is a growing delivery network of drones, built to support the U.S. healthcare system with the initial proof of concept deployment happening in in the fall in cooperation with Hutchinson Regional Medical System in Hutchinson, Kansas.

• What are two organizations are contributing to this partnership?
  o Spright is made possible thanks to the combined expertise of Air Methods, the largest air medical EMS provider in the U.S., and Wingcopter, a world leader in drone technology.

• What are Air Methods and Wingcopter contributing to this partnership?
  o U.S. operations are possible because of Air Method’s extensive infrastructure/network of more than 400 partner hospitals and 300 bases across the country and its status as the largest Part 135 operator. Wingcopter’s contribution is its industry-leading delivery drone technology and its capability to provide thousands of its new flagship drone, the Wingcopter 198.

• How many drones are initially being deployed?
  o Following a successful proof of concept demonstration and U.S. government agencies alignment with the project, an initial order of 100 Wingcopter 198 drones will be delivered for Spright’s initial deployment in the U.S.

• What oversight, licensing and certification are necessary for a network like this to exist?
  o Air Methods is the largest and most experienced Part 135 Operator in the air medical space and Spright will be operating under the same rules, regulations, and quality expectations applied to its own US Part 135 Operator certificate.

• How are these drones flown?
  o Wingcopter 198’s leverage BVLOS (beyond visual line of sight) drone technology and will follow prescribed flight plans / paths, flown by specially trained operators remotely Arizona. However, ground operators will be necessary at take-off. Later, and only after approval by the FAA, the drones will be operated from a remote location.

• How will this impact air traffic?
  o The drone operations won’t impact general manned air traffic as the drones will always fly under 400 feet. However, in order not to get in conflict with low-flying aircraft such
as helicopters, the Wingcopter 198 features ADS-B In, FLARM in and out, and remote ID (compliant to FAR Part 89) as awareness radios. A full Detect and Avoid (DAA) system is under development for deployment in 2022.

- Will these drones require a special landing pad at a hospital, like helicopters?
  - The drones will not require a specialized landing pad. Hospitals will be able to utilize pre-prepared landing zones or other appropriate space around their facility, such as an empty lot, or neighboring green space. In some cases, the drones will not land, but instead will deploy the cargo via a specialized slow-drop delivery system.

- What is the range and speed of a Wingcopter 198?
  - The Wingcopter 198 can travel 110 KM (68 miles) on a single battery charge while operating at an efficient cruising speed of 100 KM per hour (62 mph) with a maximum cruising speed of 144 KM per hour (89 mph), but payload, wind and other factors can impact speed and range.

- How much weight can a Wingcopter 198 carry?
  - A Wingcopter 198 can transport a max payload of approximately 13 pounds/6 KG (using one single cargo box; 11 pounds/5 KG when carrying three packages).

- How are Wingcopter 198’s powered?
  - Dual smart Li-Ion batteries (814Wh each) provide a redundant power supply for the drone.

- Are these drones already doing similar work in the world?
  - While the Wingcopter 198 is the brand-new Wingcopter model and will be commercially deployed for the very first time with Air Methods in the U.S., Wingcopter’s previous model, the Wingcopter 178, has been used for medical deliveries in multiple European and African nations, including Ireland, Scotland, Germany, Tanzania, and Malawi as well as Vanuatu in the South Pacific.

- What aspects of healthcare will benefit from Spright?
  - Spright will fill a gap in distribution of emergent medical supplies and time sensitive diagnostics by delivering medical supplies to healthcare providers across the nation, to include medicines, vaccines, diagnostics tests, and other medical supplies.

- What does a prototypical use case for this network look like?
  - A local outbreak of a common illness like influenza or salmonella can create a rush of patients to local medical providers. Especially in smaller communities, the local supply of important medicines like anti-virals and IV fluids are limited. In these instances, Spright can deliver these medicines from other regional sources quickly.

- What hospitals will benefit from this network?
  - The vision for Spright is to serve as a time sensitive delivery network for hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare provider locations.