



DUBAI WORLD CONGRESS  
FOR SELF-DRIVING TRANSPORT

OCT | 2019

# Urban Air Mobility

Taking Public Transportation into the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dimension

**Alexander Nase**

Managing Director, **FEV Consulting**

## Main Contributors

**Khaled Al Awadhi** Director, Transportation Systems Department

**Prof. Amair Saleem** Director, Knowledge and Innovation Department

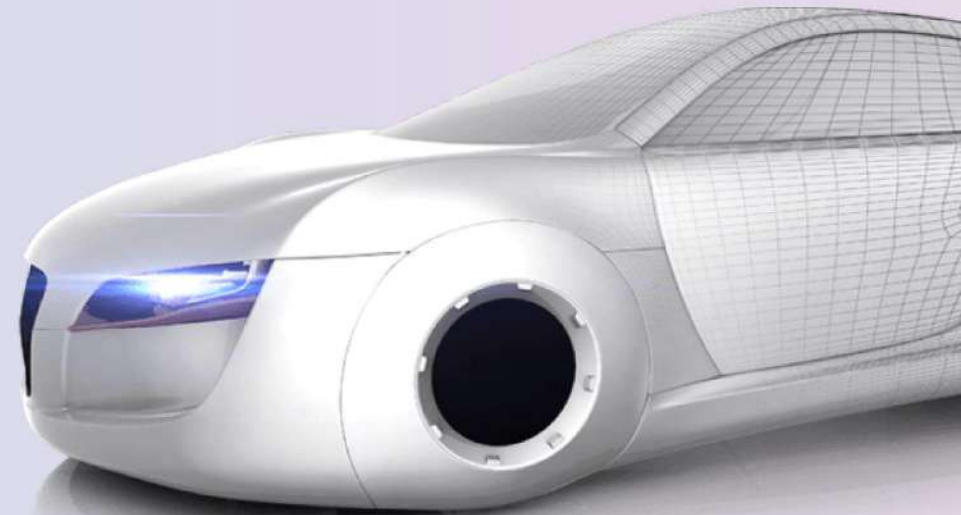
**Denis Heckmann** Manager, Lead for Connected & Autonomous Vehicles

**Roads & Transport Authority**

**Roads & Transport Authority**

**FEV Consulting**

[www.sdcongress.com](http://www.sdcongress.com)



# URBAN AIR MOBILITY – THE NEXT REVOLUTION IN TRANSPORTATION?

Unlocking the  
3rd dimension  
has a great  
potential to  
save significant  
time in people's  
life



# Dubai became one of the most exciting cities in the world and is expected to continue to grow even further

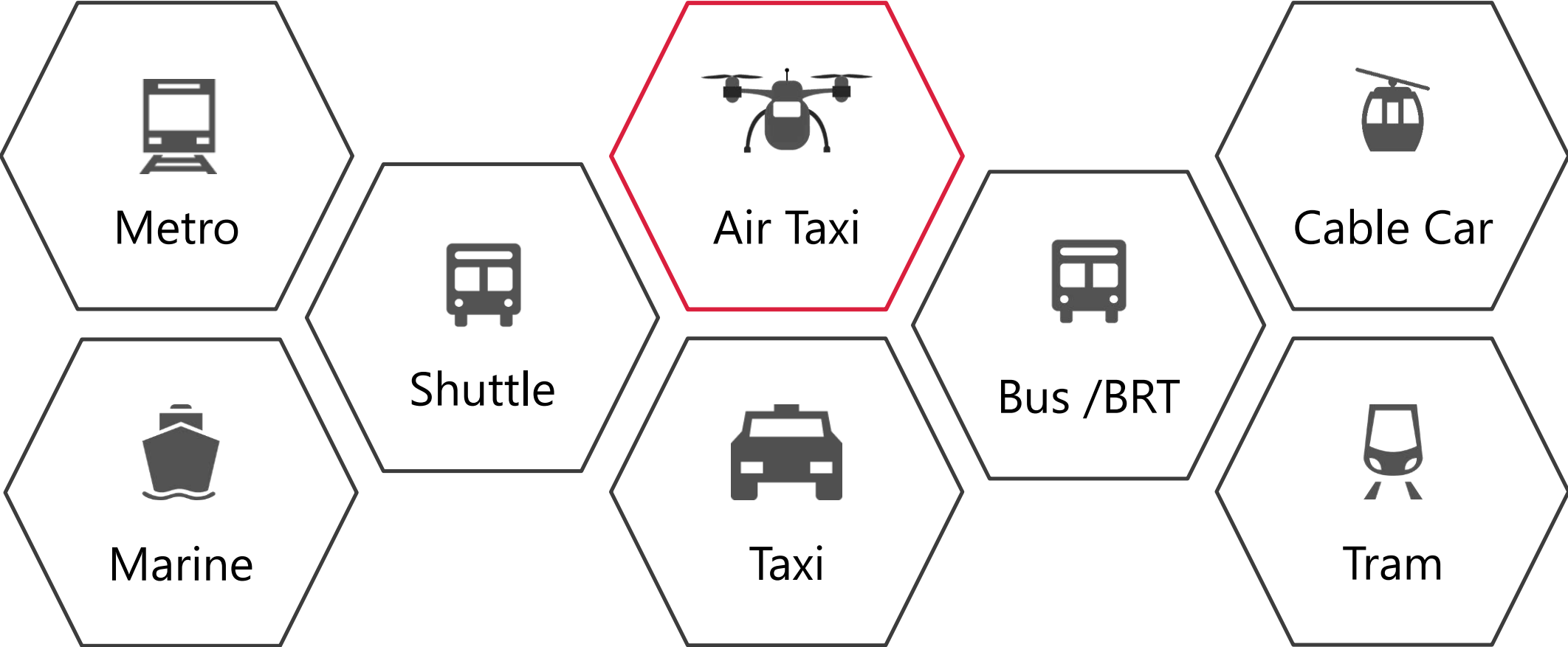


Source: googlemaps



Source: boredpanda

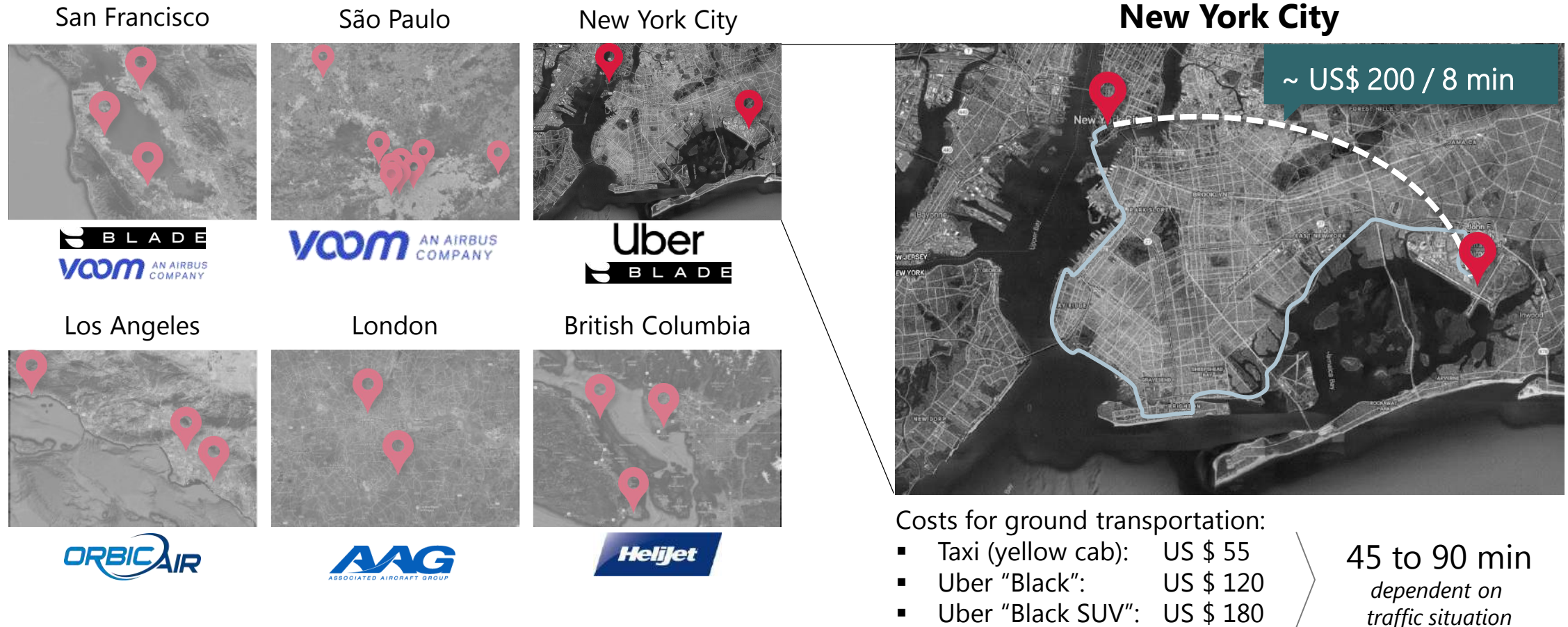
# RTA's Self-Driving Transportation Strategy is multimodal, defined autonomy targets for PT<sup>2</sup> modes and was complemented by Air Taxis



1) Public Transportation

# Air Taxi Services are already in operation, for example in New York City – but with the operation of conventional helicopters

## OVERVIEW OF SELECTED AIR TAXI SERVICES IN OPERATION TODAY



# The RTA investigated already in 2017 on autonomous aerial taxis – and launched the world’s first demonstration flight

URBAN AIR MOBILITY – THE NEXT REVOLUTION IN TRANSPORTATION?



# New electrical Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft concepts are enabled by key technologies

## ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES FOR EVTOL AIRCRAFT



Battery technology



Distributed Electric Propulsion (DEP)



Controls / Automation technology



# Future eVTOL aircraft are a game changer for Urban Air Mobility because of key improvements compared to conventional helicopters

## ADVANTAGES OF NEW VTOL AIRCRAFT CONCEPTS

### CONVENTIONAL HELICOPTER



- Safety Objective  $10^{-7}$  <sup>1)</sup>
- High CAPEX and OPEX
- High noise, limiting operation
- High energy consumption and emissions
- Up to 2 pilots

### FUTURE EVTOL



- + Safety Objective up to  $10^{-9}$  <sup>2)</sup>
- + Significantly lower CAPEX, OPEX reduced by half
- + Significantly reduced noise
- + Significantly reduced energy consumption and emissions
- + Highly automated

Note: Safety Objective referring to Function Development Assurance Levels (FDAL)

1) Class II rotorcraft

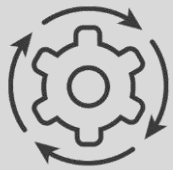
2) Under investigation by industry/authorities

# But it's more than just the aircraft; key success factors for the entire ecosystem need to be addressed to establish an effective Air Taxi Service

## KEY SUCCESS FACTORS TO ESTABLISH AN AIR TAXI SERVICE

1

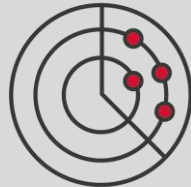
### OPERATIONS



- Effective use case and target setting
- Customer value adding routes & network, incl. MaaS integration
- Optimized operations as key for financial viability
- Public acceptance

2

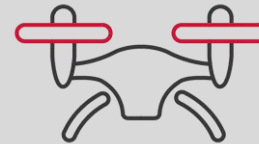
### AIRSPACE INTEGRATION



- Effective airspace integration
- Safety-focused route monitoring concept
- Selection of suitable UTM partner

3

### EVTOL AIRCRAFT



- Selection of the right eVTOL air taxi (OEM):
  - Technical capabilities to fulfill use case requirements
  - Aircraft design suitable for public transportation

4

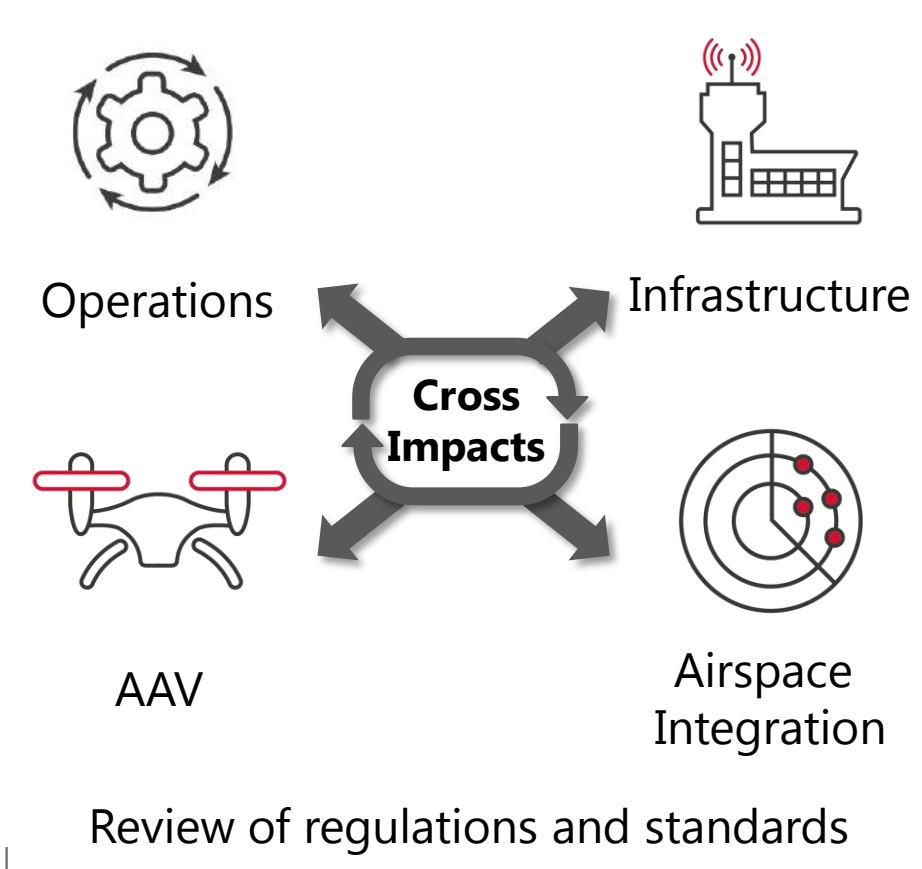
### EVTOL INFRASTRUCTURE



- Feasible locations within existing city infrastructure
- Throughput optimized, dedicated infrastructure
- Cost efficient design optimized for a short customer journey

Close cooperation with authorities for certification across all dimensions

# We applied a structured approach to define requirements for the entire AATS ecosystem and to identify all interfaces



Prepared by:



**> 1,200** requirements defined

Reviewed by Independent Assessor

Supported by:

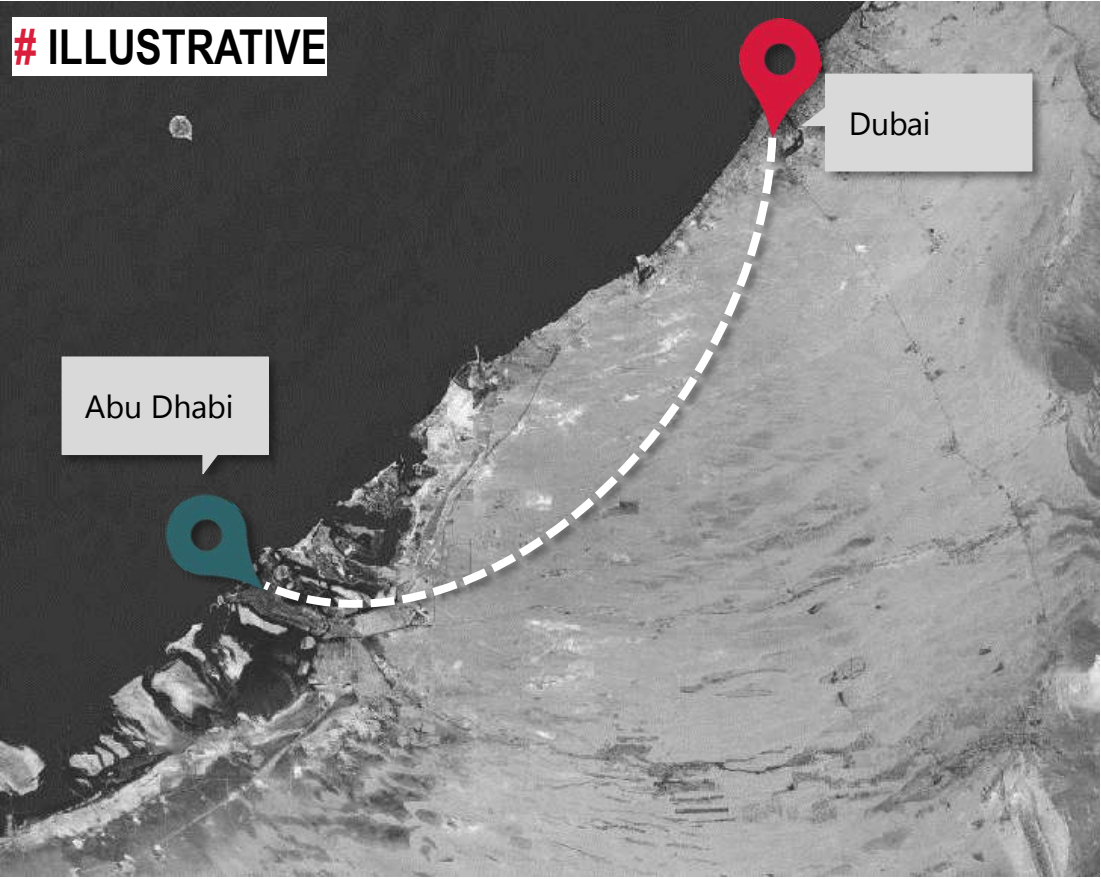


- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

# Air Taxi Service can be established for different use-cases resulting in different requirements for the entire eco-system

ILLUSTRATIONS OF AN INTERCITY AND INTRACITY USE-CASE

Intercity



Intracity



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

# Besides the use-case, there are several important factors which need to be analyzed to define an effective route and location selection

## ROUTE AND SITE SELECTION PROCESS

### Consideration of...



#### Use Case

Intercity or Intracity  
Frequency and Availability



#### Expected Demand

Daily commuters, business  
travelers, leisure trips,  
modal split



#### Proximity to POIs<sup>1</sup>

City centers, sights,  
industrial zones, dense  
residential areas, etc.



#### Plot Characteristics

Size, Noise Consideration,  
Multimodal Integration



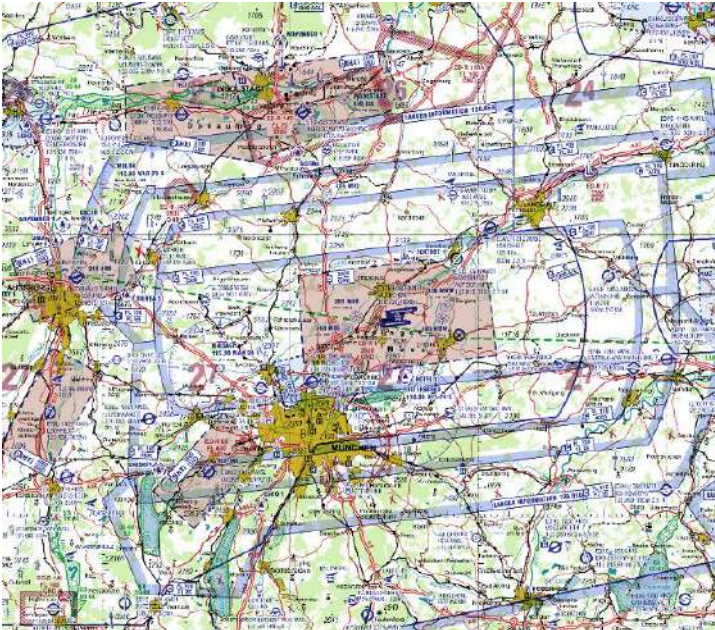
#### Airspace Integration

Feasible flight paths,  
Traffic Management  
(UTM/ATM)

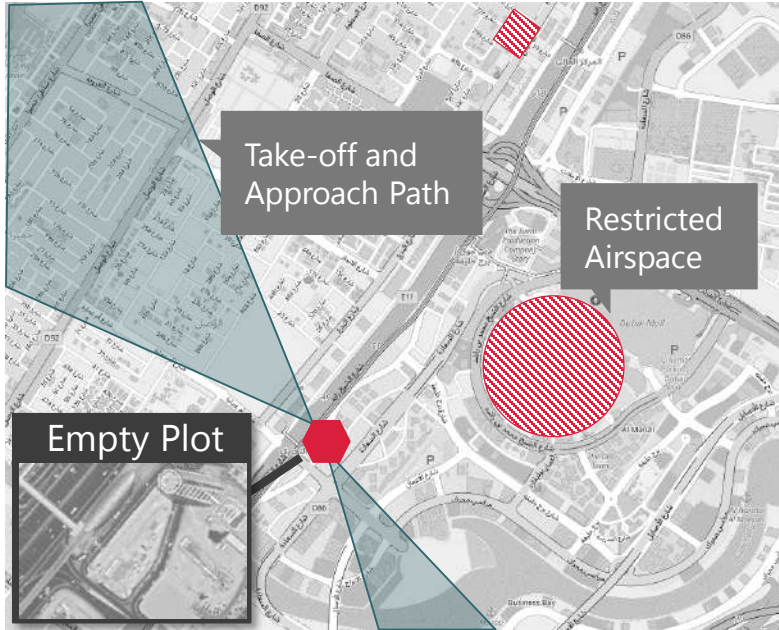
# Airspace integration is a key success factor: Available airspace, take-off / approach paths and traffic management need to be considered

## OVERVIEW OF IMPORTANT AIRSPACE INTEGRATION ELEMENTS

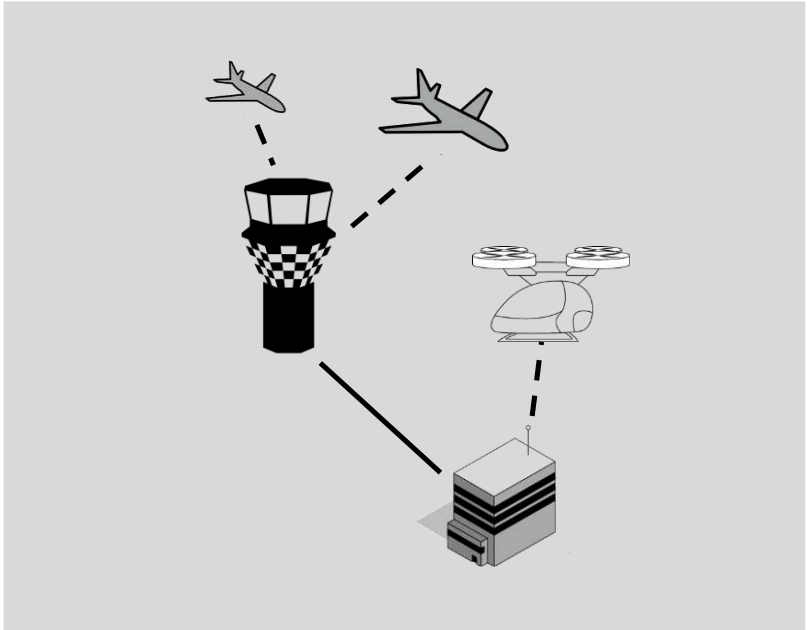
### 1 Available Airspace



### 2 Feasible Take-Off / Approach Path



### 3 Traffic Management Integration



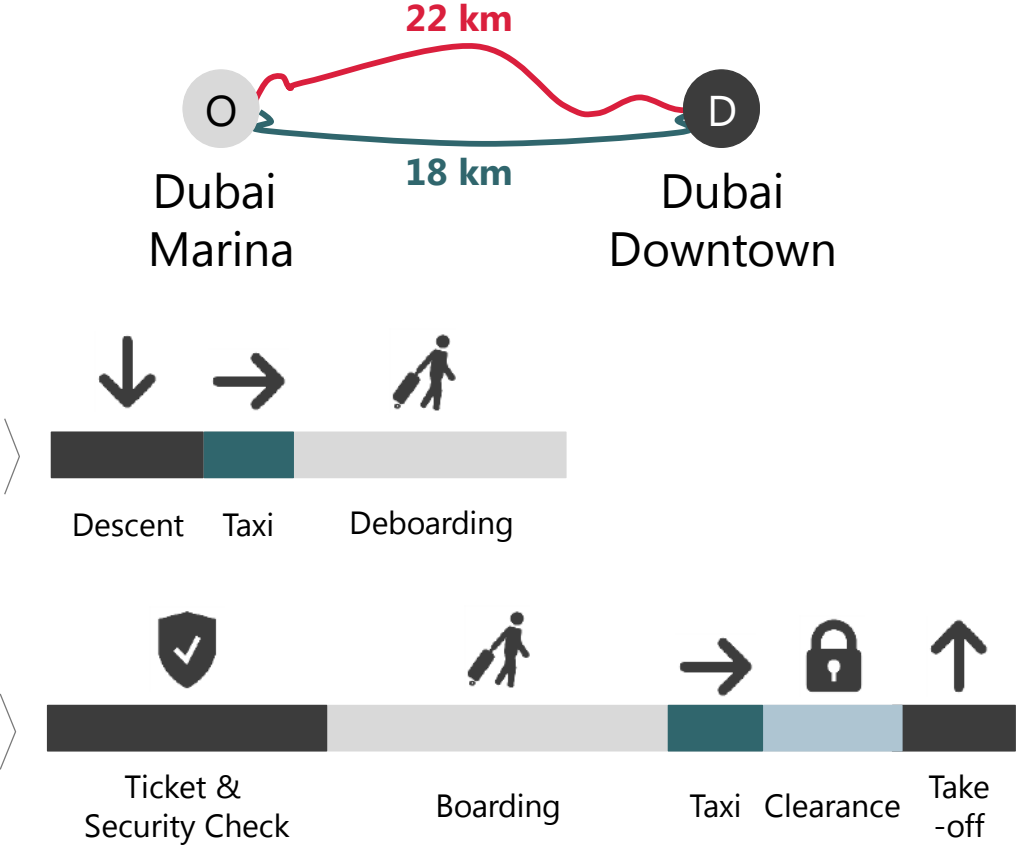
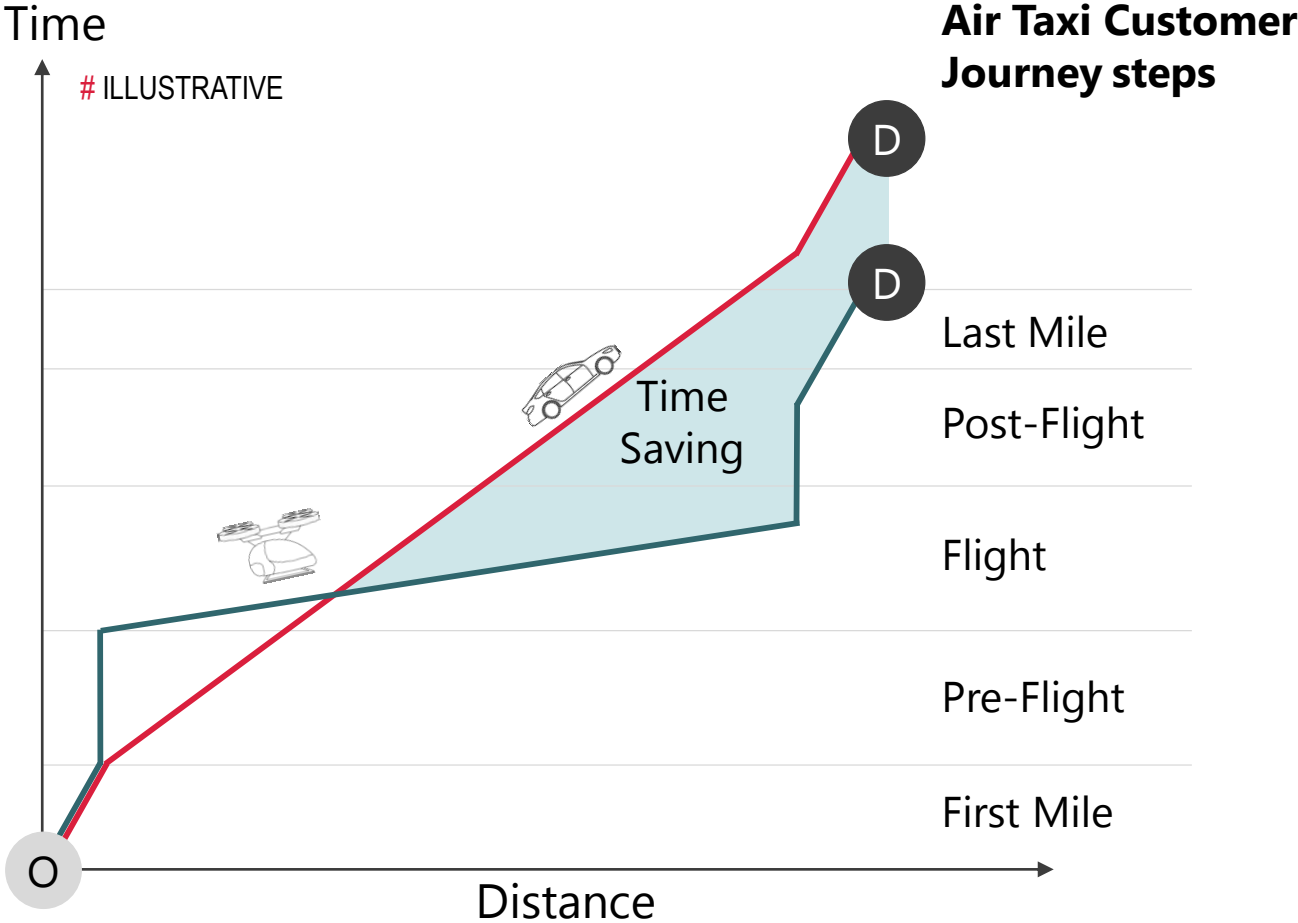
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

# Time for FMLM<sup>1</sup> and procedures at the infrastructure significantly impacts the trip duration and must be considered for route/location planning

TRAVEL DURATION BY CAR AND BY AIR TAXI

INTRACITY TRAVEL

# ILLUSTRATIVE



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

<sup>1</sup> FMLM = First Mile Last Mile  
 O = Origin, D = Destination  
 Source: FEV

# There is a broad variety of eVTOL concepts under development, coming from established aerospace companies and start-ups

## OVERVIEW OF SELECTED EVTOL CONCEPTS



**110+**  
Concepts

**30+**  
Full-Scale Models

**25+**  
Models with  
conducted flight tests

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

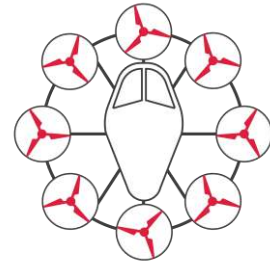
1) Cora vehicle shown, not Heavyside  
Source: Bell, Aurora, Volocopter, Airbus, Kitty Hawk, Vertical Aerospace, Lillium, Pipistrel, FEV



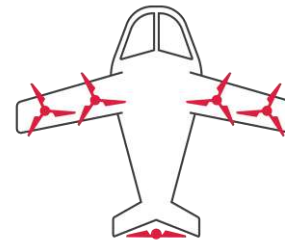
# Tilt Wing/Rotor concepts have several advantages, but are also more complex compared to Multirotor and Lift&Cruise

## COMPARISON OF EVTOL AIRCRAFT ARCHITECTURES

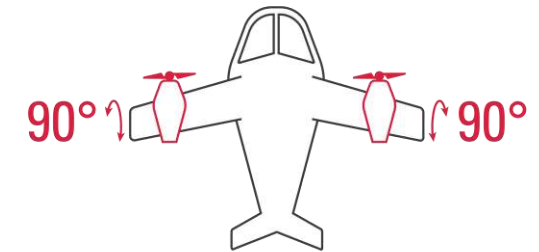
MULTIROTOR (WINGLESS)



LIFT & CRUISE



TILT WING/ROTOR



Cruise Efficiency / Speed

(Transition) Complexity

Emergency Maneuverability

Hover Efficiency

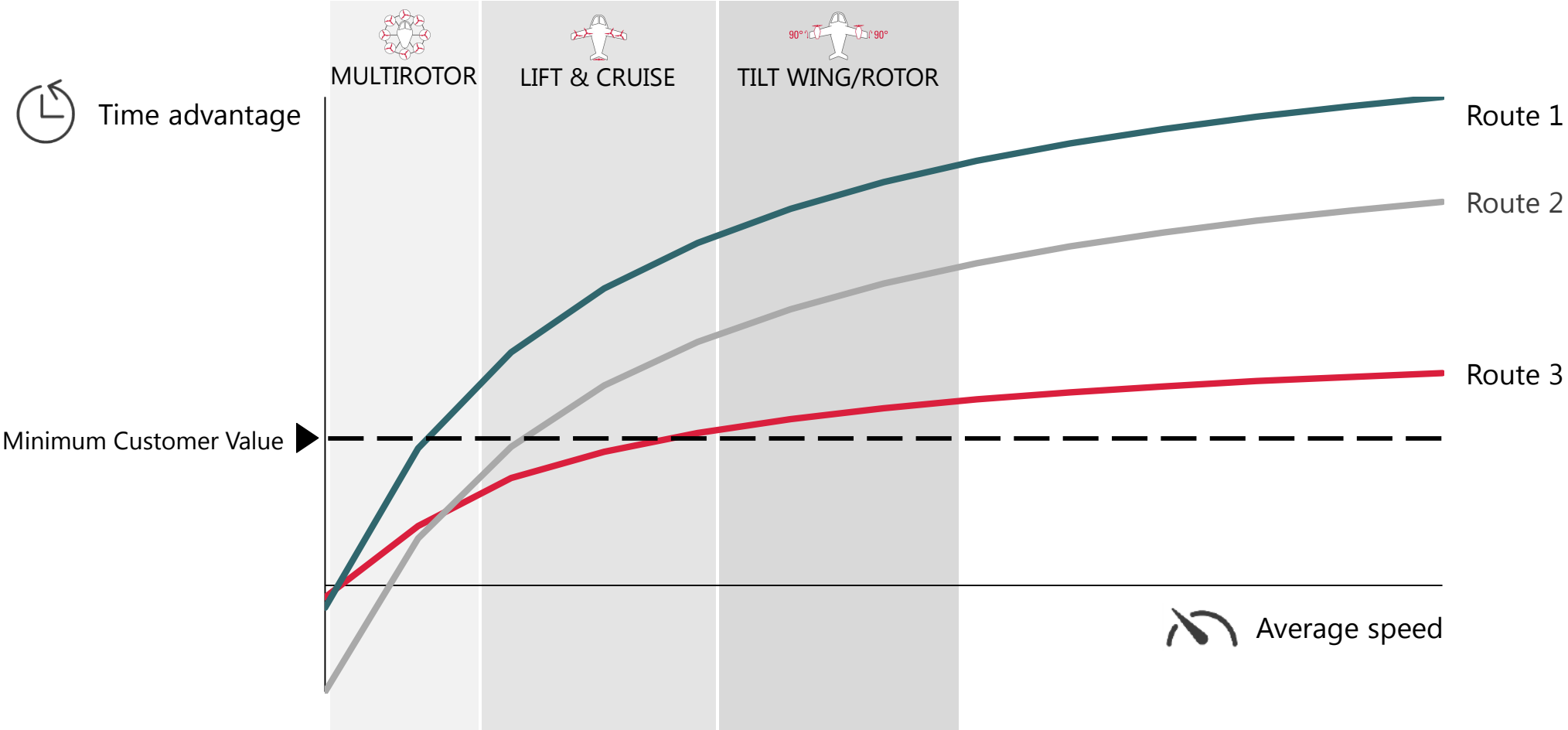


- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

# A sensitivity analysis shows which type of aircraft should be selected to accomplish the required average speed to make the routes attractive

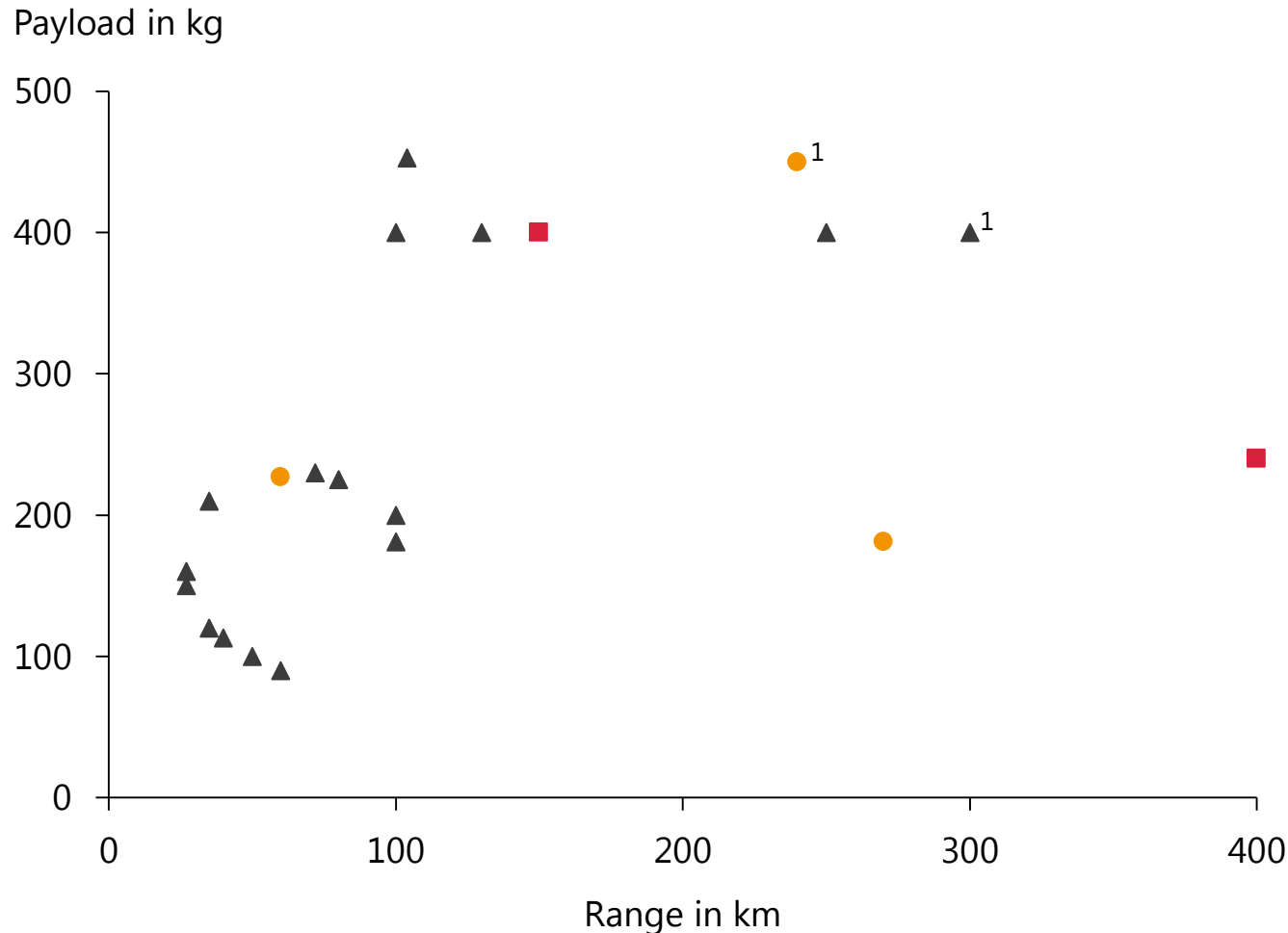
## SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF AVERAGE EVTOL AIRCRAFT SPEED

# ILLUSTRATIVE



# Battery electric concepts make up the majority of eVTOL concepts for air taxi application; battery capacity to be considered for optimized operation

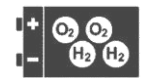
## OVERVIEW PAYLOAD OVER RANGE BY PROPULSION SYSTEM



ELECTRIC

HYBRID

FUEL CELL

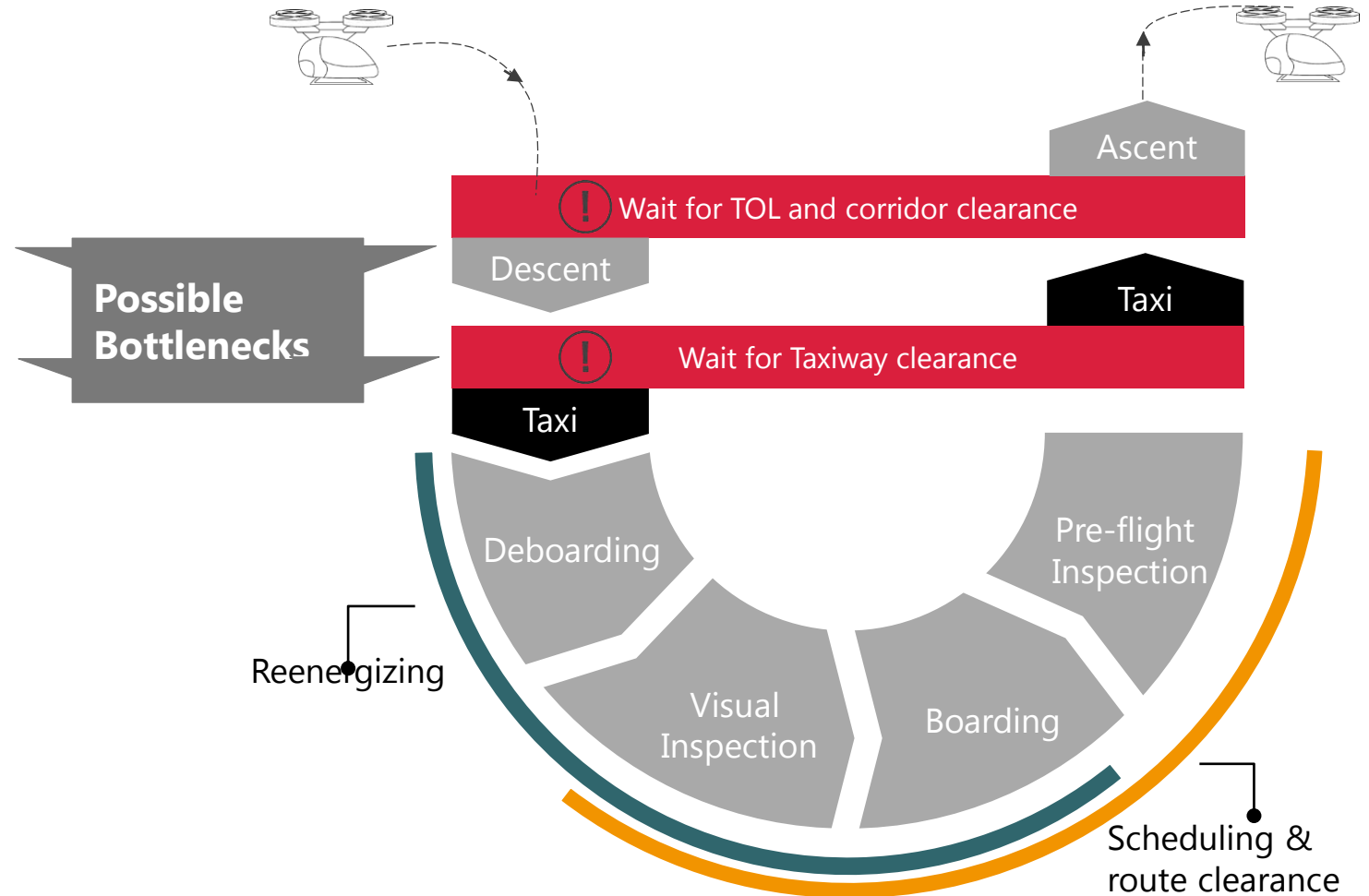
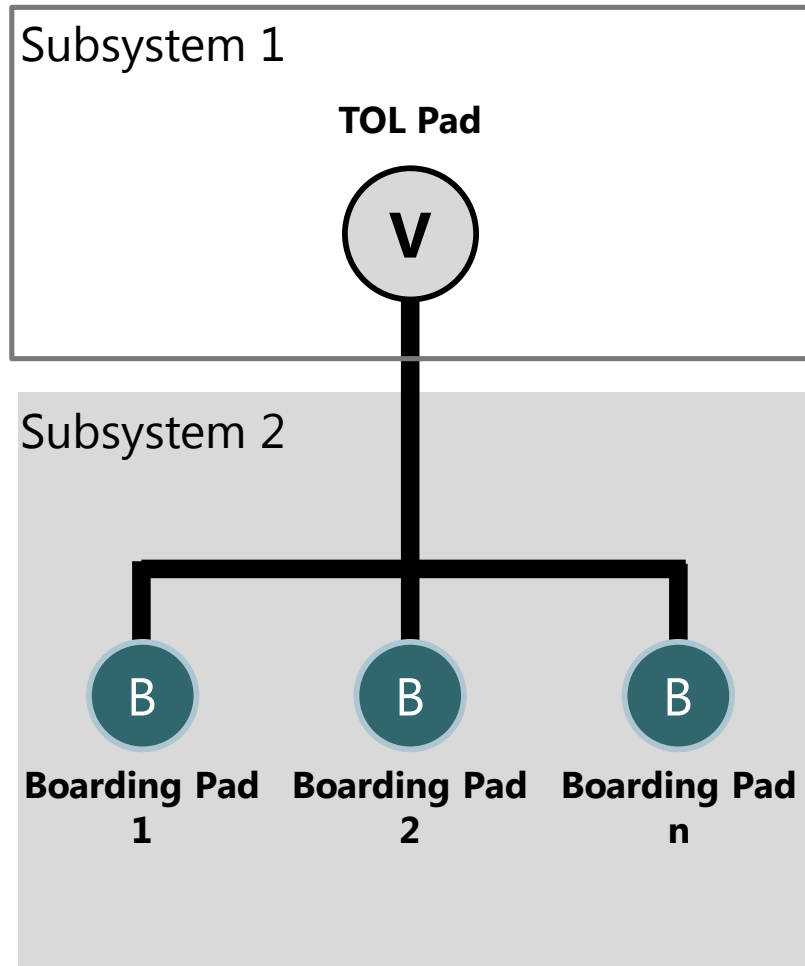


Note: Based on published information

1) estimated payload, manufacturer only provide information on # of passengers

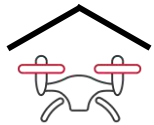
# Each of the subsystems at a Vertistrukture can become a bottleneck; a process analysis must be performed for optimized PAX throughput

## PARALLELIZATION OF THE PROCESSES AT A VERTISTRUKTURE



# We defined functional requirements for the vertistruktures and derived multiple vertistrukture concepts

## SELECTED FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A VERTISTRUKTURE



Protected Boarding Pads / Areas



AAV recharging at high temperatures



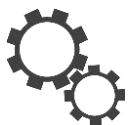
Protected parking of AAVs



High passenger comfort through temperature controlled boarding



TOL Pad to Protected Boarding Pad ratio optimized for PAX throughput



Facilities for security, maintenance and logistics, areas for multimodal integration

1

2

3

4

# Urban Air Mobility has a great potential; however, the entire ecosystem needs to be properly defined as a basis for a successful implementation

## SUMMARY

- 1** Urban Air Mobility can become a game changer for public transportation, having great potential to save significant time in people's life
- 2** Urban Air Mobility is more than just the aircraft; key success factors for the entire Ecosystem need to be considered
- 3** Interdependencies within the Ecosystem can impact the use-case, routes/locations, but also the definition of suitable aircrafts
- 4** For an efficient operation, vertistruktures need to be throughput optimized to allow a financial viable service



Alexander Nase  
**Managing Director**  
**FEV Consulting**

Phone: +49 241 5689 9744  
E-Mail: nase@fev.com

<https://uam.fev.com/>



Khaled Al Awadhi  
Director, Transportation Systems Department  
**Roads & Transport Authority, Dubai**



Prof. Amair Saleem  
Director, Knowledge and Innovation Department  
**Roads & Transport Authority, Dubai**



Denis Heckmann  
Manager, Lead for Connected & Autonomous Vehicles  
**FEV Consulting**

