

REDEFINING THE FUTURE OF COMMERCIAL DRONES:

HIVE SYSTEMS AND
THE CHALLENGES AHEAD





THE PAST: HIVE

Systems
Previous business of founders was
photogrammetry for German authorities

- Felt the need for automation to save costs and improve drone service availability
- Founded HIVE Systems with the idea to create a drone "dock" with battery changing abilities
- Moved away from big Asian drone manufacturers because of security concerns, settled on in-house developed drone battery kit





THE PAST: Challenges

- Designing the battery changing mechanics and finding suitable, cost-efficient parts
 - → Hiring expensive industrial designer, no CAD and PDM available
- Requiring a smart battery kit to fullfill the needs for an automated operation
 - → No mechanical engineer yet due to small team, only FreeCad available
- Centring the drone after landing due to GPS inaccuracies
 - → Outsourcing mechanical development to part supplier
- Decision to open drone port sideways, not from the top
 - → Less complicated CAD design



THE PRESENT: HIVE Systems

- Design change to 10ft shipping container
- Building and testing first iterations of own battery kit
- Building and testing a working prototype
- Application for BVLOS licence
- Detection of fire hazards for pioneer customer
- Team grown up to 6 employees and 2 students
- Specialized teams: ME, drone systems, Front End SW, ...



THE PRESENT: Flight Operation Challenges

- GPS position → CAN integrated GPS modules
- Drone communication → 4G/5G cellular communication add. to regular radio connection
- Video feed → Using cellular network
- User integration → Click 2 fly and extensive route planning options
- Reliable mechanical components → Replacing 3D-prints with metal parts and testing
- Wind resistance → See for yourself!









THE PRESENT: Challenges

- CE-Marking for legal operation
 - → Part-lists and drawings for the certification process
- Merging of CAD-files from old to new system
 - → FeatureWorks helps restoring parametric models from imported STEP files
- Implementing useful meta data for all CAD items
 - → Ability to create custom categories like supplier or 3D-print
- Transforming the existing "explorer" database to proper PLM
 - → Fully equipped PLM system native to the CAD (SolidWorks)
- Modern CAD for fully digital workflow: 3D-modelling, GD&T, Drawings, CAM and Simulation
 - → SolidWorks!



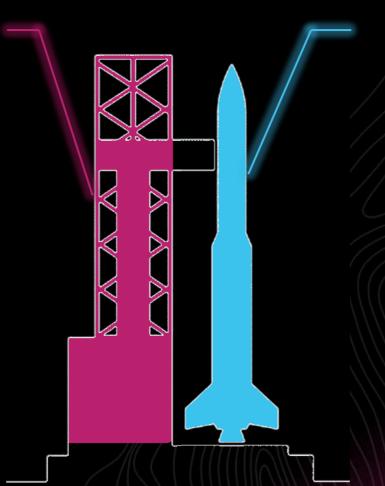
THE FUTURE: HIVE Systems

TODAY (2023)

HARDWARE & BASELAYER SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

- HW & Basic SW development is an initial requirement
- High security (failsafe) standards
 have to be met before advanced SW
 development can take off.
- HIVE production is easily scalable due to its modular, assembly only design
- The preliminary development is already mostly finished

BUILDING THE BASE



TOMORROW (2024+)

ADVANCED SOFTWARE
DEVELOPMENT

- Advanced software development is the core business model of HIVE
- Customers buy data, not drones

 (i.e., security data, fire hazard
 detection data, geoanalytical data)
- SW development for specific use cases & customers will become the main driver for both R&D and value creation

LAUNCHING THE BUSINESS



THE FUTURE: Challenges

- Designing drones in-house
 - → Fluid simulation, generative design, surface modelling
- Scalability for increased production demand
 - → CAD & PLM independent of user number
- Large teams in different locations, simultaneous working on the same assembly
 - → Full Cloud availability
- Avoiding late-stage PLM transfer thus saving costs
 - \rightarrow Easy-to-use, early PLM integration
- Future-proof
 - → DS integrating new features as early as possible
- Tablet compatible for fully digital workflow
 - \rightarrow Full access to 3DPlay, drawings and part-lists in the workshop or in the field



HIVE TRAILER



HIVE CUSTOMER <u>VIDEO</u>



HIVE PRODUCT BROCHURE





INFO@HIVE-SYSTEMS.DE

WWW.HIVE-SYSTEMS.DE