

➤ Announcement

Archerfield Airport and Wisk Aero Sign Strategic Agreement

Below: Wisk Aero Generation 6 Aircraft
Flying over Brisbane City Skyline.
Photo: Wisk Aero

Archerfield Airport Corporation (AAC) and Wisk Aero have signed a landmark Strategic Alliance Agreement to support eVTOL air taxis at Archerfield Airport, Queensland's largest general and corporate aviation airport.

eVTOL (electric vertical take-off and landing) aircraft are set to revolutionise aviation, providing fast, clean and quiet advanced air mobility (AAM) transport options.

Under the Strategic Alliance Agreement, AAC and Wisk Aero will embark on a variety of projects aimed at developing the AAM ecosystem and operations at Archerfield Airport. Kickstarting this relationship is an electrification project that will determine the electrical and infrastructure requirements and facilities needed to support eVTOL operations at Archerfield Airport.

AAC Executive General Manager Rod Parry said the airport was uniquely well-placed to service the emerging AAM sector.

"Archerfield's central location only 11 kilometres from Brisbane's CBD and between three 2032 Olympic and Paralympic zones, along with its recent \$20 million infrastructure upgrade and critical mass of aeronautical expertise, positions it perfectly to become a primary node in the AAM ecosystem, providing the facilities for eVTOL recharging, maintenance and other services," he said.

"By the time of Brisbane's Olympic Games, eVTOLs will likely be providing essential emissions-free transport services from vertiports around the region, keeping traffic off our busy roads and ensuring the efficient transfer of personnel to key sites throughout South East Queensland."

Mr Parry said the Strategic Alliance Agreement with Wisk Aero was a "back-to-the-future moment" for the historic airport.

"Archerfield was at the forefront of aviation technology in the 1930s when the industry transformed Australia," he said.

"Archerfield Airport will be back at the cusp of innovation through the adoption of AAM, delivering fast, safe, quiet, eco-friendly, on-demand aviation alternatives adaptable to a wide range of applications that will be vital as Queensland continues to grow rapidly."

Wisk Aero's Generation 6 aircraft is the world's first all-electric, autonomous, four-seat eVTOL aircraft designed for passenger transport. A wholly owned subsidiary of Boeing, Wisk Aero is headquartered in San Francisco with a presence throughout the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Poland. Having conducted more than 1,750 eVTOL test flights, Wisk Aero is pioneering the future of urban travel and daily commutes, focusing on safety and sustainability to deliver safe, autonomous, all-electric, everyday flights for everyone.

"Wisk is committed to bringing safe, sustainable and scalable autonomous air taxis to South East Queensland," Dan Parsons, Manager of Market Development at Wisk, said.

"Archerfield is at the forefront of facilitating the AAM ecosystem within Brisbane and we're excited to partner to evaluate potential future Wisk operations and airspace integration at their site, one of the major private airports in the region."

Capping an exciting week for Archerfield, the airport was named 2024 Metropolitan Airport of the Year at the Australian Airports Association's National Airport Industry Awards last night (20 November). The award recognises a dynamic year of growth that delivered vital new infrastructure and economic diversification, including the design and construction of Archerfield's largest ever hangar complex, the \$26 million LifeFlight Clive Berghofer Maintenance Centre; extending facilities for fixed base operators; and development and integration of Transition-Archerfield Logistics Estate. Archerfield development supports and drives future aviation, building on the airport's 2020 infrastructure modernisation and positioning it for sustainable growth.

Further information: Tracey Wood, AAC | 0412 180 665 | comms@archerfieldairport.com.au

