

## PRESS RELEASE

### 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Unmanned Cargo Aircraft Conference

November 23, 2017, Avio Aero, Rivalta di Torino, Italy

<https://unmannedcargoaircraftconference.com/>

## PRESS RELEASE

On November 23, 2017, the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the global Unmanned Cargo Aircraft Conference will take place at Rivalta di Torino, Italy. This conference organized by Jakajima will be hosted by Avio Aero, a GE Aviation business which operates in the design, additive and traditional manufacture and maintenance of aeronautics engines. The event will be supported by Platform Unmanned Cargo Aircraft.

The Conference aims to bring together aircraft manufacturers, operators, knowledge institutes, consultants, system integrators, logistic industry and government organizations active in the upcoming field of unmanned cargo aircraft.

Unmanned Cargo Aircraft (UCA) are a relatively new phenomenon; the first UCA service is to be started in Kenya this year. UCA offer the potential to transport loads from 1000 kg to 10 tons or more over both short and long distances, on routes that are unfeasible or uneconomical for other modes of transport.

During the conference, internationally renowned speakers will introduce UCA development projects and potential applications. Subjects to be covered are:

- UCA business models: how to earn money with UCA?
- UCA configurations: what could – and should - UCA look like?
- Regulation: where are UCA allowed to fly, and under which conditions?
- Societal benefits: what can UCA contribute to economic and social development?
- Industrial participation: how can UCA contribute to innovation and what opportunities do they generate for new enterprises?
- Market analysis

*"Avio Aero is glad to host in Turin the 5th edition of the global unmanned Cargo conference - commented **Paolo Salvetti**, Sales director at **Avio Aero**. This conference represents a tremendous opportunity in order to meet key stakeholders which are interested in the future development of large unmanned cargo aircraft, as well as understanding the challenges and the opportunities that such a development is posing. When we joined PUCA in 2015 the members participating were around 30. Today, 2 years later, we are above 70, and the number is keeping growing, representing the strong interest around UCA. Avio Aero, as part of GE Aviation, is looking very carefully at future large unmanned cargo aircraft; we strongly believe that cargo will be the first application where large UAV will break in commercial*

*operations, revolutionizing the way goods are moved around the world. And we want to be part of this journey with our competencies and leading technologies".*

*"Propulsion systems have since the dawn of flight been an important engine of progress", according to **Hans Heerkens**, chairman of the **Platform Unmanned Cargo Aircraft (PUCA)**. "UCA, not bound to the limitations of a cockpit crew, offer the possibility of innovative configurations and applications, for example ultra-short landing runs, fuel-optimized cruise speed and distributed propulsion. It is fitting that Avio Aero is hosting this edition of the Global UCA Conference, since it can play an important role in developing the propulsion systems that future UCA need."*

### **Avio Aero**

*Avio Aero is a GE Aviation business which operates in the design, manufacture and maintenance of propulsion systems for civil and military aviation. It is a Centre of Excellence for the entire General Electric Group in the field of mechanical transmission systems and low pressure turbine systems. It has over 4,100 employees in Italy, spread between the main site in Rivalta di Torino, which is also home to its largest productive plant, and the important facilities in Brindisi and Pomigliano d'Arco (Naples). It also has a major plant in Poland. Since 1908 – so for over a century now – the company has led the way in numerous technological challenges. Through continuous ongoing investments in research and development, and thanks to a consolidated network of contacts and relations with major international universities and research centres, Avio Aero has developed a degree of technological and manufacturing excellence which is acknowledged all over the world: an achievement confirmed by the partnerships signed with the main global actors in the aeronautical sector. [www.avioaero.com](http://www.avioaero.com)*

### **Platform Unmanned Cargo Aircraft**

*The Platform Unmanned Cargo Aircraft aims to foster the development, production, operation and support of unmanned cargo aircraft (UCA). Members are manufacturers, knowledge institutes, consultancy bureaus and entrepreneurs in Belgium, China, France, Germany, Italy, Kenya, the Netherlands, the UK, the USA and other countries. Activities include: research, creating a communication platform for members, and participation in advisory groups. More information on [www.platformuca.org](http://www.platformuca.org)*

### **Jakajima**

*Jakajima, matchmaker for innovators is the global organizer of High Tech conferences, ranging from 3D printing to Internet of Things, from Unmanned Systems to Health Tech, from Sport Innovation to Photonics and from Sensor Networks to 3D Food Printing. More information on [www.jakajima.eu](http://www.jakajima.eu)*