

May 9, 2017

AeroVironment, Developer of the Nano Hummingbird, Unveils Snipe™, A New, Stealthy Nano Quadrotor UAS

- | Launched from the palm of a hand, Snipe™ is worn on operators' clothing so it can spring into action immediately - first 20 systems delivered in April
- | Difficult to detect, Snipe provides close-range intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR)
- | Simple to use and requires no assembly; operates in challenging and rugged environmental conditions
- | Builds on breakthrough robotic Nano Hummingbird developed by AeroVironment for DARPA

DALLAS--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **AUVSI XPONENTIAL** - [AeroVironment, Inc.](http://www.aerovironment.com) (NASDAQ: AVAV), a global leader in unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) for both military and commercial applications, today officially unveiled the new Snipe Nano Quad, a miniature ("Class 0") and field-rugged unmanned aircraft system designed to support close-range intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions. The first U.S. government customer delivery of 20 Snipe systems took place in April.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here:

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20170509005426/en/>



AeroVironment's tiny new Snipe drone can be worn on an operator's uniform for quick access and launched from the palm of their hand. (Photo: Business Wire)

"Snipe's tiny size belies its impressive capabilities," said Kirk Flittie, AeroVironment vice president and general manager of its Unmanned Aircraft Systems business segment. "It is quick, quiet, fast, durable and packed with advanced features critical to helping our customers succeed in close-range missions."

"Snipe enables operators to spring into action quickly," Flittie said. "No assembly is required for the five-ounce (140-gram) nano-UAS, which is designed to be worn by its operator so it can be deployed in less than a minute."

Equipped with electro-optical/infrared (EO/IR), low-light-capable and long-wave infrared (LWIR) sensors in an integrated tilt mechanism, Snipe can relay high-resolution images and record real-time video both day and night. In addition, Snipe's integrated UHF radio provides for excellent non-line-of-sight operation. The software-defined radio (SDR) allows Snipe to be sold commercially.

With its quiet electric motors, flight speeds exceeding 20 mph and more than one-kilometer range, Snipe is difficult to detect in operating environments with even minimal ambient noise. Its rechargeable batteries power approximately 15 minutes of flight time. Despite its small size, the durable nano-UAS is capable of operating under challenging environmental conditions - including winds of 15+ mph with gusts up to 20 mph.

"While Snipe's stealthiness makes it ideally suited for military applications, it's an invaluable asset for anyone needing a 'Class 0' UAS to support their missions," Flittie said.

Snipe is controlled using an intuitive app on a standard, ruggedized (MIL-STD 810) touch screen controller with intuitive user interface and automated operation for ease of use. Other critical functions include Snipe's ability to return to its operator automatically if it loses its radio link.

Snipe benefits from advances in nano unmanned technology achieved by the company in its development of the internationally recognized Nano Hummingbird. "The Nano Hummingbird, the world's first unmanned aircraft capable of propulsion and control using two flapping wings, is an example of how our breakthrough innovation has spawned a valuable new capability in Snipe that now will help our customers proceed with certainty," added Flittie.

AeroVironment's Snipe Nano Quadrotor will be available to order Fall 2017. Operator training requires four hours only.

About AeroVironment

AeroVironment (NASDAQ: AVAV) provides customers with more actionable intelligence so they can proceed with certainty. Based in California, AeroVironment is a global leader in unmanned aircraft systems, tactical missile systems and electric vehicle charging and test systems, and serves militaries, government agencies, businesses and consumers. For more information visit www.avinc.com.

Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include, without limitation, any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements, and may contain words such as "believe," "anticipate," "expect," "estimate," "intend," "project," "plan," or words or phrases with similar meaning. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions that involve risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, economic, competitive, governmental and technological factors outside of our control, that may cause our business, strategy or actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, reliance on sales to the U.S. government; availability of U.S. government funding for defense procurement and R&D programs; changes in the timing and/or amount of government spending; risks related to our international business, including compliance with export control laws; potential need for changes in our long-term strategy in response to future developments; unexpected technical and marketing difficulties inherent in major research and product development efforts; changes in the supply and/or demand and/or prices for our products and services; the activities of competitors and increased competition; failure of the markets in which we operate to grow; failure to remain a market innovator and create new market opportunities; changes in significant operating expenses, including components and raw materials; failure to develop new products; the extensive regulatory requirements governing our contracts with the U.S. government; product liability, infringement and other claims; changes in the regulatory environment; and general economic and business conditions in the United States and elsewhere in the world. For a further list and description of such risks and uncertainties, see the reports we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We do not intend, and undertake no obligation, to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

For additional media and information, please follow us at:

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/aerovironmentinc>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/aerovironment>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/aerovironment>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/AeroVironmentInc>

Google+: <https://plus.google.com/100557642515390130818/posts>

View source version on [businesswire.com](http://www.businesswire.com): <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20170509005426/en/>

AeroVironment, Inc.
Steven Gitlin, +1 (626) 357-9983
pr@avinc.com

or

For AeroVironment, Inc.
Mark Boyer, +1 (310) 229-5956
mark@boyersyndicate.com

Source: AeroVironment, Inc.

