



## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

19 December 2023

# FIRST ENGINES ORDERED FOR TEXTRON SYSTEMS' AEROSONDE® PROGRAM

Orbital UAV to deliver first run of production-ready engines in support of Textron Systems' latest Aerosonde® UAS

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Image courtesy of Textron Systems

The Orbital UAV-designed engine, shown here integrated into Textron Systems' Aerosonde® HQ

**PERTH, AUSTRALIA:** Orbital Corporation Ltd ('Orbital UAV', 'the Company') is pleased to announce it has received a first order for production-ready engines from Textron Systems Corporation for integration into the Aerosonde® unmanned aircraft system ('UAS') program.

The order is worth ~A\$2.1 million and is an extension of the long-term supply agreement signed with subsidiary company Lycoming Engines in 2021.<sup>1</sup>

"This is a major milestone in the engine development program and our relationships with Lycoming Engines and Textron Systems," said Andrew Mills, Interim CEO of Orbital UAV. "Since signing this development and supply contract, we have successfully collaborated with Textron to advance the Orbital UAV-designed engine and its integration into the Aerosonde® program. This has supported Textron's system capabilities and validated the FTUAS solution presented in this UAS" he said.

Textron Systems is a subsidiary of Textron Inc (NYSE: TXT), a world leader in UAS, and one of the largest suppliers of tactical UAS to the U.S. armed forces.

## FTUAS Program of Record

Textron Systems was notified in October 2023 of its award of the U.S. Army's Future Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System (FTUAS) Program of Record Option 2 after successful completion of the Option 1 program.

According to the US Army's Program Executive Office, Aviation, when fielded, FTUAS will provide a distinct tactical advantage over current systems due to increased manoeuvrability through VTOL (vertical take-off and landing), improved command and control supported by the on-the-move capability, a reduced transportation and logistics footprint, as well as significantly improved survivability due to reduced noise signature.

The value of the FTUAS program has been put as high as US\$1 billion.

In May 2023, Textron Systems progressed in the down select process and awarded an agreement option 1. The company is offering its Aerosonde® Mk 4.8 Hybrid Quad (HQ) UAS, as shown below and featuring the Orbital UAV-designed heavy fuel engine.

## The world's largest tactical UAS program

- The value of the U.S. Army's Future Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System (FTUAS) Program has been put as high as US\$1 billion. *Article via Inside Unmanned Systems*
- FTUAS Option 1 awards were announced by the U.S. Army Program Executive Office, Aviation in May 2023. *Via PEO Aviation*
- More information on Textron Systems' FTUAS bid and Aerosonde® platform. *Via Textron Systems*



-ENDS-

[<sup>1</sup> New engine development & supply agreement signed with Textron subsidiary Lycoming Engines.](#)

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#### About Orbital UAV

Orbital UAV provides integrated propulsion systems and flight critical components for tactical uncrewed aerial vehicles (UAVs). Our design thinking and patented technology enable us to meet the long endurance and high reliability requirements of the UAV market. We have offices in Australia and the United States to serve our prestigious client base.

#### Forward-looking statements

*This release includes forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are based upon management's expectations and beliefs concerning future events. Forward-looking statements are necessarily subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside the control of the Company that could cause actual results to differ materially from such statements. Actual results and events may differ significantly from those projected in the forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors including, but not limited to, those detailed from time to time in the Company's Annual Reports. The Company makes no undertaking to subsequently update or revise the forward-looking statements made in this release to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this release.*

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