

PROJECT

QLEX Creo

QLEX Creo - Bringing reach to the drone market

Funding: European (Horizon 2020)

Duration: Dec 2017 - Oct 2018

Status: Complete

Total project cost: €71,429

EU contribution: €50,000



[CORDIS RCN : 213282](#)

Objectives:

The impact of drones and its commercial applications is often being compared with the disruptive force of the IT revolution. Soon, clients in all areas of the economy will begin to see the impact of drones on their operational processes - from the way they inspect construction sites to the way they receive goods like parcels or blood supply.

The global market for commercial applications of drones (estimated at about EUR 1.9bn in 2016) will rise to as much as EUR 118bn by 2020. But the application of today's drones is limited by a crucial weakness in technology: reach. Depending on the construction type, today's comparable industry class electric drones cannot fly longer 2 hours. Short flight time is one key barrier for a widespread usage of drones, especially as the transport industry is dependent on longer distance flights.

At QLEX we developed the QLEX Creo - a winged drone that can take off and land vertically and achieve 4-5 hours of flight time. We achieved this breakthrough efficiency by completely rethinking the architecture, aerodynamics and propulsion systems of how drones can be built.

QLEX has been running for two years, but was a secret until now. We spent the last 24 months in stealth mode designing, prototyping and testing the Creo and forming a highly skilled and experienced team of leading experts and engineers and start up shaped business developers. We now established our company, the QLEX GmbH, to assess the technological feasibility and commercial potential of the Creo.

One key objective of this project is a record-breaking proof of concept by carrying out a delivery from German mainland to the remote island Helgoland and return in one non-stop flight. No competing solution is close of being capable of achieving this.

Parent Programmes:

[H2020-EU.3.4. - Horizon 2020: Smart, Green and Integrated Transport](#)

Institute type: Public institution

Institute name: European Commission

Funding type: Public (EU)

Lead Organisation:

Qlex Gmbh

Address:

OTTERWEG 21
26123 OLDENBURG
Germany

EU Contribution: €50,000

Technologies:

Aircraft design and manufacturing
Long flight duration drones

Development phase: Implementation

STRIA Roadmaps: Vehicle design and manufacturing

Transport mode: Air transport

Transport sectors: Passenger transport, Freight transport

Transport policies: Safety/Security

Geo-spatial type: Other