

Former Volocopter CTO Jan-Hendrik Boelens joins advisory board of the AI-mobility startup Spleenlab

Spleenlab gains top expert for "New Mobility" in aviation with Jan-Hendrik Boelens

- **Jan-Hendrik Boelens becomes member of the Advisory Board of Spleenlab**
- **Support for strategic and technological development in the aviation sector**
- **Cooperation underlines growth strategy of the German deep tech company**

Saalburg-Ebersdorf. Jan-Hendrik Boelens, long-time Volocopter CTO and Airbus Chief Engineer for the Airbus Helicopters H135, joins the Advisory Board of Spleenlab with immediate effect. With his vast experience in both legacy aviation and "new mobility", he supports the deep tech start-up from central Germany in strategic and technological issues, as well as in business development. "We are pleased to have Jan-Hendrik Boelens as one of the most experienced engineers and consultants in the aviation and air taxi sector on board. He will support us to continue our growth with a strong focus in one of the largest markets of the future," said Tobias Rüdiger, Managing Director and Head of Finance & Operations at Spleenlab.

"The certification of our technology for BVLOS flights, for example, is our top priority. Jan-Hendrik Boelens will accompany us here with his expertise on our way to becoming the leading AI-mobility start-up in the field of safe automated flying," added Stefan Milz, Managing Director and Head of R&D. "I am excited to support Spleenlab in realizing their ambitious goal of autonomous flight. Similar to the automotive industry, autonomous flight will be a key technology for new aerospace applications. Spleenlab is enabling this transition by building safety and reliability into the DNA of their technology from the very beginning," said Jan-Hendrik Boelens.

About Jan Hendrik Boelens:

Jan-Hendrik Boelens is an independent expert and management consultant for aerospace and mobility. He was Chief Technology Officer at air taxi start-up Volocopter GmbH for a long time. In addition, he held various management positions at Airbus Helicopters - including head of development for electrical systems and electric propulsion. He also served as a chief engineer for the H135 helicopter, and as team leader in avionics development. He was an active member of the RTCA/EUROCAE working group that developed the DO-178C industry standard for aviation software. Most recently, he founded Tech4Flight, his own independent consulting company for the aerospace and mobility field.

About Spleenlab

Spleenlab is a 2018 re-founded highly specialized AI software company aiming to develop safe AI applications for real-time automation of drones, air-taxis and self-driving cars. The technologies and products developed by Spleenlab offer their users a variety of different application possibilities for AI-based 3D mapping, inspection or monitoring in real-time on the vehicle. The members of the steadily growing team bring their many years of experience as senior AI engineers, managing directors and marketing experts to the company, which is based in Saalburg-Ebersdorf/Germany.

VISIONAIRY Take-off Talk with Jan-Hendrik Boelens

You have been active in the aerospace industry in management positions for many years. What has changed most technologically in recent years?

There has been enormous technological progress in many areas of our daily lives, but these innovations have often not found their way into aviation. The development of electric vehicles, the increase in performance of small electronic devices such as smartphones, the network-enabling of digital devices and processes (IoT), and the embedding of AI systems in everyday applications, are just a few examples. It is extremely exciting to see innovative startups like Spleenlab, apply these innovations to create new applications in aerospace.

What excites you most about "new mobility" as opposed to "classic aviation" and where do you see the greatest potential?

Most of us only come into contact with aviation once per year, when we fly to our holiday destinations. I am convinced that new technologies can be used to develop solutions that will play a more significant and ubiquitous role in our everyday lives. Air taxis that are affordable for the majority of people would be a good example of such an improvement of everyday life.

What impact will artificial intelligence have on the entire sector in the coming years?

You only have to look at the rapid development of AI in self-driving cars: These have achieved impressive results in recent years. It is not hard to imagine the types of solutions this technology could enable in the (urban) air mobility sector in the future. The argument that there are no regulations for this (yet) should not be an excuse for slowing the pace of innovation: Safety regulations are generally the result of practical experience with a technology. We need to demonstrate that AI-systems can be used to engineer safe and reliable solutions.

Which role will Spleenlab play in this?

As Spleenlab is one of the few players who have safety designed into the core of its AI solutions, it has great prerequisites to become a market leader in this segment. I am happy to be a part of this journey as a member of their advisory board.

Press Contact

Sebastian Süß

Managing Director | Marketing & Communications

Spleenlab GmbH

Hauptstraße 18

07929 Saalburg-Ebersdorf

P: +49 (0)176 211 30 295

M: sebastian.suess@spleenlab.ai

W: spleenlab.ai