



Media information  
Rothenburg/Hünenberg, 9 December 2020

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*Eco-FLY Ltd.*

## Company factsheet:

<b>Company:</b>	Eco-FLY Ltd. (subsidiary of the Wiederkehr Group, Switzerland)
<b>Establishment:</b>	2018
<b>Headquarters:</b>	Im Bösch 71, 6331 Hünenberg, Switzerland
<b>Website:</b>	www.ecofly.industries, www.wierec.com
<b>Core business:</b>	Recycling of aircraft
<b>Membership:</b>	Member of Airfleet Recycling Association (AFRA)
<b>Management:</b>	Peter Wiederkehr, founder and CEO

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*Eco-FLY Ltd.*

## Swiss-German pilot project in aircraft recycling

**At Rothenburg airfield near Görlitz, a decommissioned Airbus A320 waits to be completely dismantled and its materials reprocessed. This is a pilot project and the first pioneering collaboration between Eco-Fly Ltd. from Switzerland and Elbe Flugzeugwerke GmbH from Dresden – aircraft recycling at the highest technical level.**

Once a decommissioned aircraft is on the ground, it can't be moved again. So what do you do with the mountain of materials and parts, and – more importantly – how do you go about recycling and disposal on that scale? There is great potential here, as aircraft tend to be retired earlier these days. What was once nothing more than the disposal of mixed waste and metals has transformed into a high-tech repurposing of valuable materials. That involves disassembling and separating parts, and returning them to the materials cycle in an economically and environmentally responsible way. It's an undertaking in which

specialist knowledge and recycling at the highest technical level are absolutely essential – and which Eco-FLY Ltd. has in its DNA.

### **Experience and innovation**

Swiss recycling company Eco-FLY Ltd. is still young. Young, but not inexperienced. Its founder, Peter Wiederkehr, can look back on 60 years of expertise. It's a name that has had a huge impact on the Swiss recycling landscape. The Wiederkehr Group is now one of the largest recycling companies in Switzerland, with two sites in Germany, including one in Polleben, Saxony-Anhalt. The group's head office is in Waltenschwil, Switzerland. There you will find one of the most modern reprocessing facilities in the world. Wiederkehr finds new and innovative ways to meet ever increasing demands for materials reprocessing, constantly advancing its technology and processes in its research department. This step into the aircraft recycling sector with subsidiary Eco-FLY Ltd. was a logical outcome of its activities.

### **Specialist collaboration**

Eco-FLY Ltd. lends new wings to the aircraft recycling business. But not just that. Above all, the aim is to set new and sustainable standards. And that takes strong partners. On its search for professional aircraft maintenance companies with a view to sustainable aircraft recycling, Eco-FLY Ltd. attracted the interest of Elbe Flugzeugwerke GmbH (EFW) in autumn 2019. Over the last 14 months, the two companies have conducted workshops to evaluate the potential for collaboration on recycling of the A320 prototype. Together they are assessing the possibility of establishing an aircraft recycling site in Rothenburg, near Görlitz.

### **Recycling on a different scale**

Recycling is one thing, aircraft recycling is a different story altogether. Eco-FLY Ltd. is a strong partner that can call on a wealth of experience in large-scale projects through its parent company, the Wiederkehr Group. This results in valuable synergies that increase efficiency in the dismantling, separation, analysis and reprocessing of the different materials. One example is the plan to feed non-aluminium parts back into the materials cycle. Aluminium parts can be analysed at the Waltenschwil headquarters of the Wiederkehr Group and then reprocessed for the secondary market in raw materials.

### **Establishment of a suitable site**

The former Soviet military installation at Rothenburg airfield offers the perfect infrastructure. Eco-FLY Ltd. and Elbe Flugzeugwerke GmbH will together evaluate the necessary conditions for a repurposing of the site. This project could be the first step towards the establishment of a recycling site in Rothenburg.

### **Milestone in aircraft dismantling**

The Airbus is ready. The coming months will show whether efficient, sustainable aircraft recycling is feasible. The findings from this process are also valuable in that they could point the way forwards for a partnership between Eco-FLY and EFW. This 9 December is a milestone for both companies and for this innovative, pioneering pilot project.

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*For enquiries and further information:*

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### *Image material*



Airbus-A320-Landung-Rothenburg.jpg

((Bildlegende))

With the arrival of the Airbus A320, a new era begins at Rothenburg airfield (Görlitz).