

SOLAR IMPULSE SUCCESSFULLY LANDS IN NEW YORK CITY AND SETS HISTORIC FIRST

Prototype Plane Completes Across America Mission Powered Only by Solar Energy

NEW YORK CITY, USA, July 6, 2013 - Solar Impulse – the solar-powered airplane of Swiss pioneers Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg – has successfully landed at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport setting a new milestone in the history of aviation: for the first time a plane capable of flying day and night powered exclusively by solar energy has crossed the USA from the West to the East Coasts without using a single drop of fuel.

André Borschberg, Solar Impulse Co-founder and CEO, landed Solar Impulse at JFK on Sunday, July 6 at 11:09 p.m. EDT, 3 hours earlier than planned because of a rip in the fabric on the lower side of the left wing. The flight took 18h 23min with a departure from Washington Dulles at 04:46 a.m. EDT on Saturday.

“This last leg was especially difficult due to the damage of the fabric on the left wing. It obliged the team to envisage all the possible scenarios, including bailing out over the Atlantic. But this type of problem is inherent to every experimental endeavor. In the end, this didn't prevent us from succeeding in our Across America mission and provided an invaluable learning experience in preparation for the round-the-world tour in 2015,” said André Borschberg shortly after landing, adding “we extend our gratitude to all airport and government authorities whose precious support made this mission possible.”

The arrival of Solar Impulse in New York City marks the culmination of its ambitious journey Across America, which started on May 3rd in San Francisco, California. The journey took a total of 105h 41min and 3511 miles flown at an average speed of 28.8 kt. Before reaching New York, Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg alternately flew Solar Impulse to Phoenix, Dallas-Fort Worth, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Washington D.C. The plane stopped over in each of these cities giving the opportunity to the team to organize public viewings and political meetings with high level representatives such as Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz, to promote clean technologies, energy efficiency and renewable energies.

“Flying coast-to-coast has always been a mythical milestone full of challenges for aviation pioneers. During this journey, we had to find solutions for a lot of unforeseen situations, which obliged us to develop new skills and strategies. In doing so, we also pushed the boundaries of clean technologies and renewable energies to unprecedented levels,” said Dr. Bertrand Piccard, Solar Impulse Initiator, Chairman and pilot.

SOLAR IMPULSE NEW YORK CITY SCHEDULE

- News conference and Flying Laboratory event with Solar Impulse mission partners on Monday, July 8 at noon at John F. Kennedy International Airport: Under the slogan “Cleantechs are profitable”, Solar Impulse will hold a press conference and event axed on presenting the technological contributions from Solar Impulse partners.

- Run of show:

Remarks by:

- Port Authority Representative
- Solar Impulse pilots Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg
- Solar Impulse partners: Solvay, Schindler, Swiss Re Corporate Solutions, Bayer Material Science, Sunpower and the Swiss Government

Q&A opportunity

- Visit and photo opportunities around the airplane

- Interview opportunities with pilots
 - Nasdaq Opening Bell Ceremony: On Tuesday, July 9 at 9:30 a.m. Solar Impulse pilots and co-founders, Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg, will visit the NASDAQ MarketSite in Times Square and ring the Opening Bell. Media are welcome to attend the event at NASDAQ MarketSite, 4 Times Square, 43rd & Broadway, Broadcast Studio from 09:15 to 09:30 a.m. Interviews can be organized from 9:30 until 11:00 a.m.
 - UN presentation: On Tuesday, July 9 at 4 p.m. Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg will speak at Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Chamber in presence of UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon and Ambassador of Switzerland to the United Nations Paul Seger. Media are welcome to attend the presentation: If you do not hold a UN badge, please RSVP to nyc.rsvp@eda.admin.ch indicating full name, media outlet, nationality, date of birth. Please bring along a valid form of ID.
 - Solar Impulse Open House - Public Visits will be organized at the Solar Impulse hangar at JFK on:
 - Saturday, July 13 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.
 - Sunday, July 14 from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 - Several private Solar Impulse partners events throughout the week July 8 – 15 at JFK
- The Solar Impulse Across America mission is made in partnership with Solvay, Schindler, Bayer Material Science, Swiss Re Corporate Solutions, Sunpower and the Swiss Confederation.

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR MEDIA:

On Tuesday, July 16, once events are over, the Solar Impulse team will return home to Switzerland. However, discussions about the future plans for HB-SIA are still ongoing. A final wrap-up press release with this and other information will be sent around mid-July.

FLIGHT REPORT: WASHINGTON DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – NEW YORK JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Pilot:

André Borschberg, Co-founder and CEO

Take -off time:

July 6, 2013 04:46 AM EDT (UTC-4)

Time of landing:

July 6, 2013 11:09 PM EDT (UTC-4)

Flight duration:

18h 23min

Average ground speed:

27km/h (15 kts)

Highest altitude reached:

3110 m (10 200 ft)

Flight Distance:

495 km (~267 NM)

THE “ACROSS AMERICA” MISSION AT A GLANCE:

- 03 May 2013: First leg San Francisco/Moffett Airfield – Phoenix/Sky Harbor

Pilot: Bertrand Piccard, Initiator and Chairman

- 22 May 2013: Second leg Phoenix/Sky Harbor – Dallas/Fort Worth

Pilot: André Borschberg, Co-Founder and CEO

- 03 June 2013: Third leg Dallas/Fort Worth – St. Louis/Lambert Airport

Pilot: Bertrand Piccard

- 14 June 2013: Fourth leg St. Louis/Lambert Airport – Cincinnati as Pit Stop – Washington

DC/Dulles

Pilot: André Borschberg (St. Louis – Cincinnati) and Bertrand Piccard (Cincinnati – Washington D.C.)

• 06 July 2013: Fifth and last leg Washington DC/Dulles – New York/JFK

Pilot: André Borschberg

ABOUT SOLAR IMPULSE

Swiss pioneers Dr Bertrand Piccard (Chairman) and André Borschberg (CEO) are the founders, pilots and the driving force behind Solar Impulse, the first airplane that can fly day and night without fuel. Solar Impulse is a unique adventure that aims to bring emotions back at the heart of scientific exploration, a flying laboratory to find innovative technological solutions for today's challenges and a vision to inspire each of us to be pioneers in our everyday lives.

This revolutionary carbon fibre airplane has the wingspan of a Boeing 747 (63.4m / 208 ft) and the weight of a small car (1,600kg / 3,527 lb). It is the result of seven years of intense work, calculations, simulations and tests by a team of about 80 people and 100 partners and advisors. A plane so big and light has never been built before. The 12,000 solar cells built into the wing provide four 10HP electric motors with renewable energy. By day the solar cells recharge the 400kg / 881 lb lithium batteries which allow the plane to fly at night.

SOLARIMPULSE ? ACROSS AMERICA ?

An idea born in Switzerland

It's not by chance that Solar Impulse took flight in a country like Switzerland. From the onset, Solar Impulse took advantage of Switzerland's long tradition of technological innovation, research and entrepreneurial excellence. Over the centuries this small landlocked country has developed a strong relationship between the academic and business sectors, facilitating collaboration between laboratories, universities and some of the world's most technologically innovative startups and small-medium enterprises: an ideal blend to kick start a revolutionary project.

SOLVAY

This international industrial group active in chemistry is providing the Solar Impulse project with vital research and development resources. Solvay is contributing research into innovative materials (plastics and polymers) and technical solutions, modeling and simulating their behavior in extreme conditions, evaluating them technically, and undertaking a whole range of tests. In joining the project Solvay has accepted to work at the furthestmost frontiers of technology as a response to the challenges of sustainable development.

SCHINDLER

By embedding its engineers in the Solar Impulse project, Schindler again proves its «can-do» attitude and spirit of innovation at the technological forefront for sustainable mobility. Its pioneering spirit has delivered many industry benchmarks in innovation, including Schindler's destination controller, machine room-less elevators, and steel rope-less traction. Schindler moves 1 billion people every day. The company's very latest development, an elevator powered exclusively by solar energy.

BAYER MATERIAL SCIENCE

Bayer Material Science is supporting Solar Impulse with technical expertise, high-tech polymer materials and energy-saving lightweight products. Bayer Material Science's carbon

fiber technologies, for example, increase battery performance and improve the strength of structural components while keeping their weight to a minimum. Other potential applications include innovative adhesives, polyurethane rigid foams for cockpit and engine insulation, and extremely thin yet break-resistant polycarbonate films and sheet for the cockpit glazing.

SWISS RE CORPORATE SOLUTIONS

By supporting Solar Impulse, Swiss Re Corporate Solutions continues to insure what others consider uninsurable. Through the provision of risk transfer and financing solutions they ensure the bankability of renewable energy projects, leveraging their significant experience in managing complex and challenging risks. Recognizing the challenges which arise from new, innovative projects, the company gives Solar Impulse the security of a full insurance solution.

SUNPOWER

Chosen for their reliability, weight and energy efficiency ratio, nearly 12,000 SunPower solar cells are used for the Solar Impulse airplane.