

## *Epiphany Transporter* **Backstory** (Horatio Alger inspired)

Two quixotic, aerospace engineers and VTOL (Vertical Take-Off and Landing) aircraft enthusiasts, working remotely in stealth mode, 300-miles apart, over a five-year period, have amalgamated their NASA-proven technology from an earlier era into a breakthrough in personal airborne mobility. They have brought together several world-class industry partners from around the globe to join the effort, and together have validated the wingless *Epiphany Transporter's* predicted capabilities and performance – heretofore unachievable by other organizations.

Designing and engineering from distant offices, their burgeoning vehicle concept underwent many iterations as its shape and systems morphed into the final remarkable product. Their *distributed* development team idea, similar to the vehicle's distributed propulsion, has made the project possible and economically feasible. Without the burden and overhead of dedicated facilities and employees, the team has a mission to build a proof-of-concept manned prototype on a shoestring budget of \$3,000,000 – while other organizations are spending *tens of millions* of dollars on designs with less performance and utility.

The decision in 2018 to join the “Cambrian-explosion” of other companies around the world working on “flying cars” was based on the duo's earlier successful work developing ducted thrusters for their innovative *SoloTrek XFV* – a personal backpack VTOL aircraft that won Time Magazine's *Invention-Of-The-Year* award in 2003. Tested in NASA's wind tunnels, and further proven in several manned prototype aircraft flights, the unique thrusters would support the development of the envisioned *Epiphany Transporter*, achieving the five Holy Grail requirements for a truly *practical* design:

- ▶ **Payload:** 2 passengers, 2 pieces of luggage AND golf clubs, plus personal “carry-ons”
- ▶ **Performance:** 300+ mile range @ 130 mph to 160 mph cruise speed
- ▶ **Compact Size:** About the size of a Tesla Model S automobile (with thrusters folded)
- ▶ **Sound:** Neighbor-friendly (comparable to normal residential street background noise)
- ▶ **Safety:** Distributed propulsion with 100% redundancy, and triple-redundant auto-pilot



The team's quest for a safe, practical machine had been an on, off, then on-again affair for half a decade while running into seemingly insurmountable technical roadblocks, only to have “Epiphany” moments during the darkest hours showing the way forward. Now, with the craft's design and engineering work essentially complete, their next step is to build and fly a full-scale, manned prototype. They are seeking a joint-venture with a strategic, aerospace-industry partner, to expedite the prototype-build, testing and certification. Thereafter, introducing the personal *Epiphany Transporter* to an eager worldwide marketplace.