

# Boeing Drone V2



**NAU**  
NORTHERN  
ARIZONA  
UNIVERSITY

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College of Engineering,  
Informatics, and  
Applied Sciences

Presented by: Dylan Boeholt, Andre Bonillas, Connor Davidson, Jeremy Malmo, and Michael Zielinski

# Project Description/Overview

## Statement:

- We will Develop a Boeing Utililty Drone with Variable Payload Capacity (Version 2)

## Description/Objective:

- Design a drone frame utilizing commercially available parts
- engage and deploy different payloads, while remaining airborne
  - The payload will also include a camera for potential surveying
- must be able to return to user and deliver/retrieve a payload to/from a desired location/target
- Sponsor:
  - Boeing Company, Mesa, AZ Facility (Defense, Space and Security Division)

## Importance:

- Could satisfy a need for a more affordable and easier to manufacture, payload capable drone
  - Drone could be used to deliver and receive any kind of package,
  - could also be used for emergency reponse to deliver first aid materials or other emergency supplies
- Necessity for remote piloted drones that are durable, easy to fly, and can return to the user while performing tasks

# Background & Benchmarking

## Background:

- Design 1: Boeing drone Version 1 (Hi-Jax); NAU class of 2022 team
  - Only the drone was developed, light weight and compact, 6.8 lbs total weight
  - Pros: Lightweight, compact, durable, and a good jumping off point for our project
  - Cons: Not stable and no payload capabilities.
- Design 2: Aurelia X8 Pro; 8 rotor drone
  - Designed to carry a heavy payload, 10 kg
  - Pros: Heavy payload capabilities
  - Cons: Expensive and more rotors means more things to break.
- Design 3: Aurelia X6 standard; 6 rotor drone
  - Carries a lighter load, 1.5-3kg, releasable payload system
  - Pros: Less likely to break and cheaper than Design 2
  - Cons: Light payload capabilities and expensive

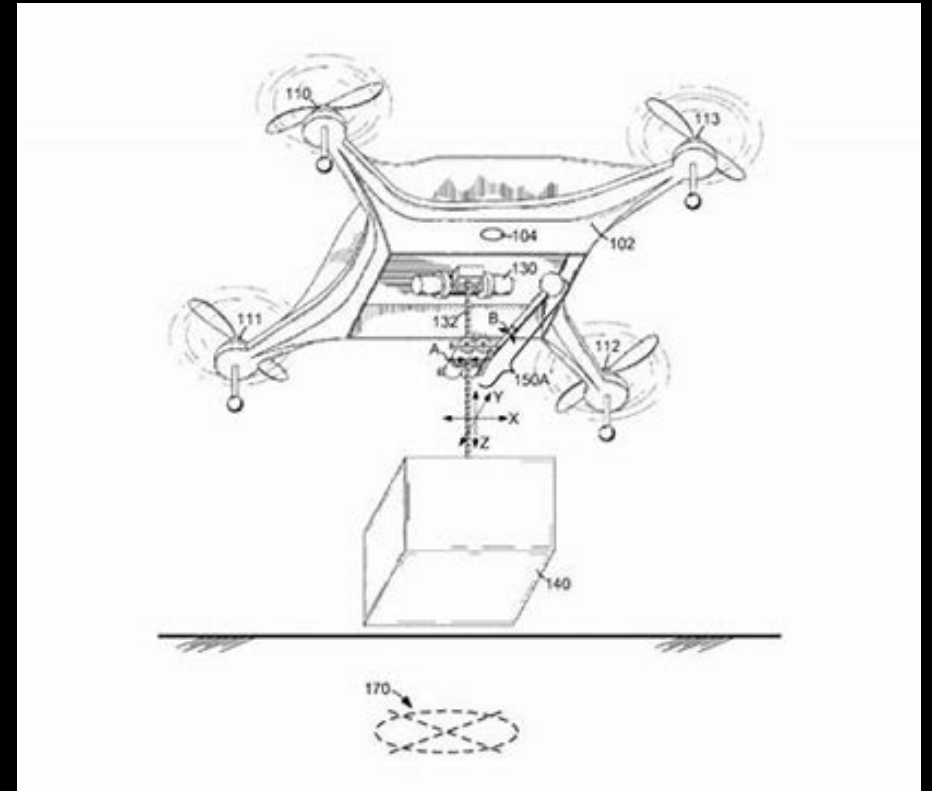


# Benckmarking/Goals

- Drone must be able to pick up and drop off a payload, and interact with it (operating the camera)
- Payload will be heavy in relation to the overall weight of the craft (minimum of 30% of total weight)
- Overall compact and minimal design
- Optimize in-flight stability with incorporation of payload interchange system
- D.O.R.I.S. Dynamic – Overhead – Reconnaissance – and Interchange – System

# Customer Requirements

- High mobility
- Compact Dimension
- Complete Boeing Recon Mission
- Payload Capacity
- Battery Capacity for small mission
- Cost Efficiency
- Thrust Efficiency
- F.A.A. Registered



# Engineering Requirements

- Thrust to weight ratio of at least 1:3
- Under 36"x36"x36"
- Complete Course < 10 minutes
- Payload  $\geq 5$  lb
- Time of flight > 10 minutes
- Total Cost under \$3000
- Lift 30% of total system weight
- Meets FAA requirements

# QFD

- Thrust to weight ratio and payload capacity are of most importance

		Technical Requirements							
Customer Needs	Customer Weights: 1-5	Thrust to weight ratio	Compact Design	Complete Course	Payload	Time of flight	Total Cost under \$3000	Lift % of total weight	Meets FAA requirements
High mobility	4	3	2	2	2			3	
Small	1	1	3					2	
Complete Boeing Recon Mission	5			3	2	2			2
Payload Capacity	5	2			3			3	
Battery Capacity for small mission	4			2		3	2	1	
Cost Efficiency	3		2				3		
Thrust Efficiency	4	3			2			3	
F.A.A. Registered	5								3
Technical Requirement Units			Under 36 inches	minutes	pounds	minutes	\$USD\$	% pounds	
Technical Requirement Targets		1:03	Under 36 inches	< 10	> 5	> 10	>3000	30	

QFD

System QFD		Project: Boeing Drone V2	
		Date: 9/16/2024	
High mobility		3	3 Highes on scale
Small		2	
Complete Boeing Recon Mission		2 3	
Payload Capacity		2	
Battery Capacity for small mission		3 1 3	
Cost Efficiency		2 2	
Thrust Efficiency		3	
		Technical Requirements	
Customer Needs	Customer Weights: 1-5	Thrust to weight ratio	Compact Design
		Complete Course	Payload
		Time of flight	Total Cost under \$3000
		Lift % of total weight	Meets FAA requirements
High mobility	4	3	2
Small	1	1	3
Complete Boeing Recon Mission	5		3
Payload Capacity	5	2	3
Battery Capacity for small mission	4		2
Cost Efficiency	3	2	3
Thrust Efficiency	4	3	2
F.A.A. Registered	5		3
Technical Requirement Units			
Technical Requirement Targets			
Absolute Technical Importance		9	7
Relative Technical Importance		7	7



# Literature Review (Dylan)



- Engineering Statics: Chapter 4 Moments and Static Equivalence
- Engineering Statics: Chapter 7 Centroids and Centers of Gravity
- Design and Analysis of a Topology-Optimized Quadcopter Drone Frame
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Scholarly Paper. This source provides equations to calculate the thrust of propellers
- Quadcopter Body Frame Model and Analysis
- Code of Federal Regulations Title 14 Chapter 1 Subchapter F Part 107
- How to Calculate & Measure Propeller Thrust

# Literature Review (Andre)

- Book & chapters:
  - Make: Getting Started with Drones – chapter 12 - book
    - Describes how to implement a camera into a drone design and how to control it
  - Building Your Own Drones: A Beginner's Guide to Drones, UAVs, and ROVs Chapter 12 - book
    - Describes how to incorporate accessories such as payloads into a drone's overall design
- Papers:
  - "A Practical Perspective on the Drone-with-a-Slung-Load Problem." - Journal
    - Demonstrates drone flight behavior with a payload that is suspended (slung) below the aircraft
  - "Quadcopter Design for Payload Delivery." - Journal
    - provides insight into constructing a drone to carry a payload, such as flight behavior and structural design
  - "Package Retrieval system with funneling mechanism." Patent
    - Demonstrates potential payload retrieval mechanism, using 2 sloped mating surfaces
- Standard:
  - FAA small, unmanned aircraft weight requirements for registration (0.55 - 55 lbs) or (0.25 - 25 kg) - FAA.gov
    - Specifies the weight range for the FAA classification of a small unmanned aircraft (drone)
- Other online sources:
  - "Payloads for Drones in Emergency Response: Guide to what UAVs Carry." - dslrpros.com - article
    - Details different type of payloads that drones can carry (active, passive, dispensable)
  - "Heavy Lift Payload Drones." Uavsteminternational.com - website
    - Details existing drone designs that are intended to carry large payloads (>10kgs)
  - "Best Drones using a payload release mechanism – uavsystemsinternational.com - website
    - Details a drone that utilizes a drop mechanism for payload delivery

# Literature Review (Connor)

- Website:
  - [1] “Aircraft Inquiry” Faa.gov
    - This website is where we will register our drone at.
  - [2] “5 Best Heavy Lift Drones [Updated 2020] Large Drones High Lift Capacity,”
    - This website helps us baseline our project by giving us similar drones to our project
- Journal Papers:
  - [3] “The Current Opportunities and Challenges in Drone Technology,”
    - This journal outlines some current opportunities and challenges with drones today
  - [4] “Emerging technologies and the use case: A multi-year study of drone adoption,”
    - This journal evaluates drone technology over a multi-year study
  - [5] "IEEE Approved Draft Standard for Drone Applications Framework,"
    - This journal explains IEEE approved draft standards for drone application
- Books:
  - [6] *2024 - 2025 FAA Drone License Exam Guide*. 2024.
    - This book is an exam guide for the FAA drone license.
  - [7] *Remote Pilot - Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Study Guide (Federal Aviation Administration): FAA-G-8082-22*. 2018.
    - This book is a study guide for FAA regulations for small unmanned aircraft systems

# Literature Review (Jeremy)

## Websites

- Devin et al., “How to choose FPV drone motors - considerations and Best Motor Recommendations,” How to Choose FPV Drone Motors – Considerations and Best Motor Recommendations, <https://oscarliang.com/motors/> (accessed Sep. 16, 2024).
- J. and Daniel, “The UAV Chronicles,” Step 5: Motor Selection, <https://uav.jreyn.net/> (accessed Sep. 17, 2024).

## Journals

- K. TAKATO and S. SHIRAYAMA, “Development of a 3D-printed device evaluating the aerodynamic performance of rotary wings,” Journal of Advanced Mechanical Design, Systems, and Manufacturing, vol. 12, no. 1, pp. JAMDSM0027–JAMDSM0027, 2018, doi: 10.1299/jamdsm.2018jamdsm0027.
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- N. Barrera, S. Martin, and M. Stewart, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. New York: Nova Science Publishers, Inc, 2021.

## Standard

- “The Ultimate Guide to Heavy Lift Drone Motors,” JOUAV, <https://www.jouav.com/blog/heavy-lift-dronemotors.html#:~:text=Ideally%2C%20for%20standard%20drones%2C%20a,for%20smooth%20and%20controlled%20flight>. (accessed Sep. 17, 2024).

# Literature Review (Michael)

- Books:
  - Building Your Own Drones: A Beginner's Guide to Drones, UAVs, and ROVs (Chapter 14: Software) [22]
  - Make: Getting Started with Drones (Chapter 4: Flight Controllers) [21]
- Papers:
  - A Review on the State of the Art in Copter Drones and Flight Control Systems 2024 [19]
  - Development of Drone based Delivery System using Pixhawk Flight Controller [18]
  - Payload Manipulation for Seed Sowing Unmanned Aerial Vehicle through interface with Pixhawk Flight Controller [17]
- Standard:
  - ASTM F3005-22 Standard Specification for Batteries for Use in Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) [20]
- Websites:
  - OscarLiang.com - useful general information about electronic part selection/drone building [14]
  - UAV.ireyn.net - another college capstone that built a quadcopter [15]
  - Ardupilot.org - Ardupilot flight controller and guide for DIY building of drones [16]



# Mathematical Modelling (Dylan)

Payload Weight:  $W = 18lb$

$$W \times 0.3 = P \quad 18 lb \times 0.3 = 6 lb$$

Thrust to Weight Ratio

Thrust > Weight and Payload to create lift

$$W + P = 18 lb + 6 lb = 24 lb$$

Thrust > 24lbf for lift

Goal Thrust to Weight Ratio = 1.6

$$T = (W + P) \times 1.6 = 38.4 lbf$$

Thrust of the propeller can be calculated using the following equations:

$$F_{thrust} = \dot{m} \cdot [V_e - V_0]$$

Where:

$\dot{m}$  = mass flow rate

$V_e$  = exit velocity of air

$V_0$  = entrance velocity of air

$$\dot{m} = \rho \cdot V_p \cdot A = \rho \cdot V_p \cdot \pi r^2$$

# Mathematical Modelling (Andre)

- Maximum weight calculations based off FAA regulations:
  - Max weight of system  $\leq 25$  kg
  - $W_D$  = Drone weight
  - $W_P$  = payload weight =  $0.3W_D$
  - $W_D + 0.3W_D = 25$  kg
  - $W_D \text{ MAX} = 19.2$  kg
  - $W_P \text{ MAX} = 0.3W_D = 5.8$  kg
- Desired weight calculations based off customer & engineering requirements:
- $W_P = 5$  kg
- $W_D = W_P/0.3 = 16.7$  kg
- Desired weight of system = 21.7 kg
- Force of payload on connection apparatus:
- $F = mg$ :  $F = (5\text{kg}) * 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 = 49.1 \text{ N}$

# Mathematical Modelling (Connor)

- Course Length and Speed Calculations

$$120 + \text{Sqrt}(240^2 + 90^2) + 90 + \text{Sqrt}(240^2 + 90^2) + 120 = 842.64 \text{ feet}$$

To complete the course in 10 minutes

$$842.64 \text{ feet} \times 1/10\text{min} \times 1 \text{ min}/60 \text{ s} = 1.4044 \text{ ft/s}$$

- Payload Stress Equations

$$F = m \cdot g$$

$$\sigma = F_n / A$$

$$\tau = F_p / A$$

$$\varepsilon = \Delta l / l_0$$

$$E = \sigma / \varepsilon$$



# Mathematical Modelling (Jeremy)

Motor Selection: Thrust Ratio goal of 3:1  
(min. Of 6.3lb payload)

Projected total system weight: 21lb  
=9.52 kg

TWR = F/W

$$TWR = \frac{3}{1} = \frac{(9.52kg)*3}{9.52kg} = \text{Total thrust } 28.56 \text{ N}$$

QUAD-COPTER (4)

$$\frac{\text{Thrust}}{\# \text{ of motors}} = \frac{28.56}{4} = 7.14 \text{ kg required per}$$

HEX-COPTER (6)

$$\frac{\text{Thrust}}{\# \text{ of motors}} = \frac{28.56}{6} = 4.76 \text{ kg required per}$$

Propeller Thrust:  $0.5 * \rho * \pi r^2 * [V_e^2 - V_o^2]$

$\rho = \text{air density}$   $r = \text{propeller radius}$

$V_e = \text{Air Exit Velocity}$   $V_o = \text{Air entrance Velocity}$

# Mathematical Modelling (Michael)

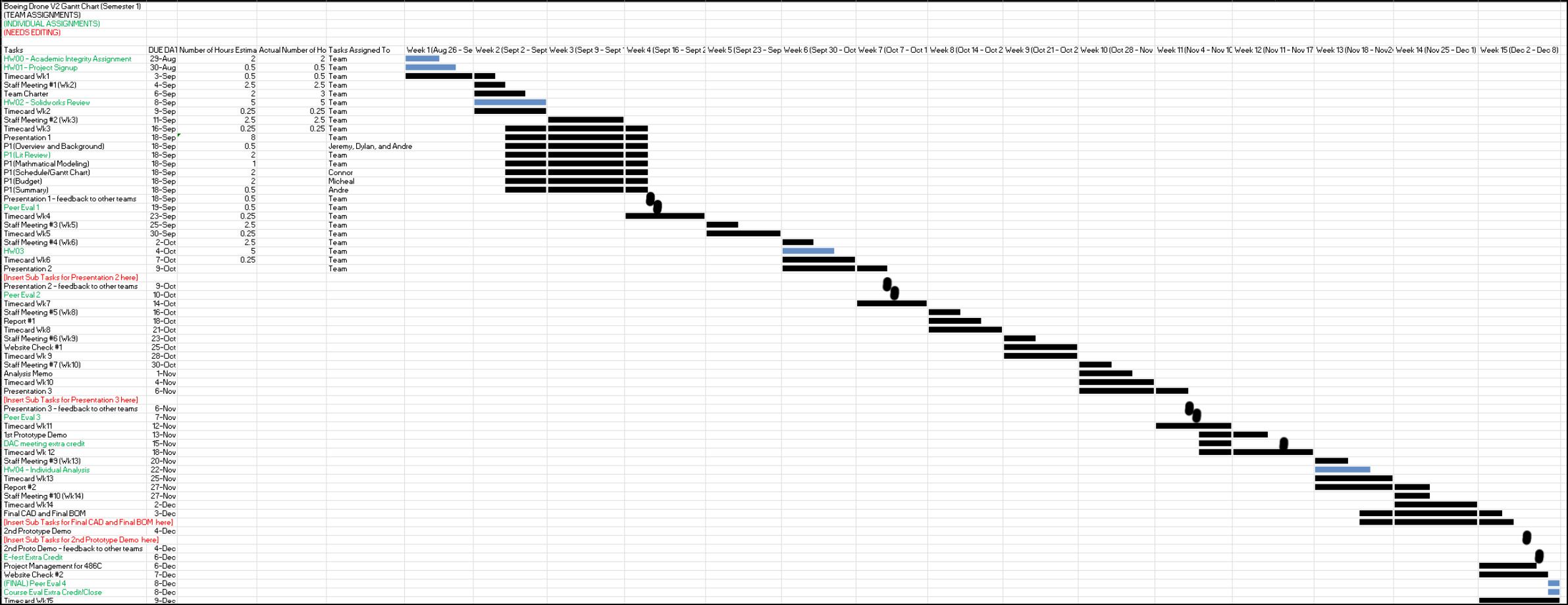
- Battery capacity formulas

- o Power formula (W):  $P = V \times I$
- o Energy consumption over time (Wh):  $E = V \times I \times T$
- o Capacity from voltage (Ah):  $C = E/V$

- Assumptions: 700W per motor, 15 minute flight time, 4 motors at max draw, 22.2V battery

- o  $700W \times 0.25hr = 175Wh$
- o  $175Wh \times 4 \text{ motors} = 700Wh$
- o  $700Wh / 22.2V = 31.53Ah$  (31,530mAh) battery required for ONLY MOTORS with NO step down

# Schedule & Gantt Chart



# Budget

Team:	Boeing V2		Budget:	\$	3,300.00			
Team Number:	F24toSp25_13		Expense:	\$	3,300.00			
Speedchart:			Remaining:	\$	-			
Date	Vendor	Item	Quantity	Cost per Unit	Cost	Status	Notes	
9/10/24	Amazon	PLA Filament	1	\$ 15.26	\$ 15.26	Delivered	Jeremy Paid	
9/17/24	Staples	64GB EliteX CL10 microSD (2 pack)	1	\$ 16.46	\$ 16.46	In-Store	Jeremy Paid	
		Pixhawk 6C Flight controller	1	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		Holybro PM07	1	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		Holybro M8N GPS/Compass	1	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		Xing 2814 880KV Motor	4	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		EFlite EFLA1040A EFC	4	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		FlySky IA6B 6-channel Receiver	1	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		RC Controller	1	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		6000mAh battery	1	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		Other electronic components (for drone flight only, not payload)	1	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		Donated 3D filament (ABS & PLA)	1	\$ -	\$ -		Donated	
		Propellers	4	\$ -	\$ -		Salvaged	
		GoPro Hero (the little one)	1	\$ 217.26	\$ 217.26		GoPro.com	
		New battery	1	\$ 519.69	\$ 519.69		Based on Tattu G.Tech 22Ah	
		New motors	6	\$ 60.00	\$ 360.00		2 extras, high end	
		New ESCs	6	\$ 25.00	\$ 150.00		Based on research experience	
		New props	6	\$ 45.00	\$ 270.00		Based on SwellPro Fisherman Max 16" carbon fiber props (high end)	
		Various hardware pieces	1	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		Based on hardware prices	
		Frame Materials	1	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		Estimate based on 3D printing from Hi Jacks	
		Travel to/from PHX	2	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00		Based on Nissan Versa gas mileage, free housing, food on your own	
		Payload attachment system	1	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		Servos/design materials	
		Discretionary Budget	1	\$ 151.33	\$ 151.33		Leftover	

# Summary and Future Plans

- We are tasked with building and iterating on a FAA certified drone for the Boeing Company that can pick up and drop off a payload that is 30% of the total weight of the drone autonomously.
- The drone must also be able to complete the Boeing test course while carrying the payload and when complete, be able to take a picture of the team.
- In the next few weeks, we plan on solidifying a design for the drone, do material testing, and start testing the drone itself.
- D.O.R.I.S. coming soon

# Questions?

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  - [2]D. W. Baker and W. Haynes, Statics: Moments and Static Equivalence. Available: [https://engineeringstatics.org/Chapter\\_07.html](https://engineeringstatics.org/Chapter_07.html)
- Papers:
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