



Legal Name Hermeus

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Categories Aerospace, Air Transportation, Infrastructure, Travel

Overview

Hermeus is an aerospace and defense technology company, founded with the mission to radically accelerate air travel through the development of hypersonic aircraft. The company envisions slashing travel time significantly by delivering planes that can fly five times the speed of sound. For instance, a trip from New York to London could be reduced to only 90 minutes. Their strategy focuses on a hardware-rich, iterative approach that simultaneously accelerates development cycles and reduces costs. [1]

Founded in 2018, Hermeus is committed to enhancing both commercial and defense air capabilities. Besides their commercial ventures, they actively collaborate with the Air Force and other government bodies to innovate uncrewed, high-speed aircraft for defense and national security missions. The company's hypersonic technologies represent a significant advancement in defense capabilities, emphasizing unparalleled speed, altitude, and maneuverability. [1][0]

Hermeus employs more than 200 staff across four US-based locations: Atlanta, GA (headquarters), Los Angeles, CA, Washington D.C., and Jacksonville, FL. The team comprises top-tier talent sourced from startups, premier defense contractors, renowned airplane manufacturers, and the U.S. military, indicating broad expertise and collaborative prowess. [1]

[0]https://www.hermeus.com

[1]https://www.hermeus.com/about

About Products and Technologies

Hermeus is pioneering the development and operationalization of hypersonic aircraft, designed to drastically reduce travel time across global distances. Their aircraft are envisioned to enable travel, such as from New York to Paris, in approximately 90 minutes, hence redefining international connectivity. [0]

As part of its defense technology offerings, Hermeus develops uncrewed hypersonic aircraft for national security purposes which offer significant enhancements in speed, responsiveness, and survivability for the United States and its allies. This marks a substantial leap in defense technological capabilities. [0][1]

Hermeus has achieved a technological milestone with the 'Chimera' engine – the world's first commercially-developed turbine-based combined cycle engine. This engine innovatively transitions from turbojet to ramjet, which is integral for sustaining hypersonic speeds without reliance on traditional rocket engines. This ensures operability and reliability akin to modern jet aircraft while significantly enhancing speed capabilities. [2]

The Chimera engine uses readily available off-the-shelf gas turbine engines, a strategy that conserves billions in development costs and reduces the timeline for implementation. In November 2022, Hermeus successfully demonstrated a key technological milestone essential for operational hypersonic flight. [2]



[0]https://www.hermeus.com

[1]https://www.hermeus.com/about

[2]https://www.hermeus.com/products

Main Product Names

Chimera - A world-first hybrid engine designed as part turbine, part ramjet, enabling high-speed transitions without rockets, thus promoting reusable and operational hypersonic flight. [2]

Quarterhorse - A hypersonic aircraft model that serves as a testing platform for Chimera, emphasizing rapid progress in aerospace capabilities. [0]

[0]https://www.hermeus.com

[2]https://www.hermeus.com/products

Leadership team



Name: AJ Piplica

Position: Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder

LinkedIn: View on LinkedIn

About: AJ Piplica is the Co-Founder and CEO of Hermeus. He attended the Georgia Institute of Technology.



Name: Glenn Case

Position: Founder and Chief Technologist

LinkedIn: View on LinkedIn

About: Glenn Case is the Founder and Chief Technologist at Hermeus.



Name: Michael Smayda

Position: Chief Product Officer and Co-Founder

LinkedIn: View on LinkedIn

About: Michael Smayda is the Chief Product Officer and Co-Founder of Hermeus.





Name: Skyler Shuford

Position: Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer

LinkedIn: View on LinkedIn

About: Skyler Shuford is the founder and Chief Operating Officer of Hermeus Corporation with primary effort devoted to hypersonic aircraft R&D, system analysis and test, company growth and strategy, internal process development, corporate communications and brand, and certification planning. Prior to Hermeus, Skyler was the Director of Avionics and Software at Generation Orbit, where he was responsible for design, analysis, manufacture, and test of the in-house developed flight and facility electronic systems and software and was the technical lead for the GN&C analysis, algorithms, and hardware for the X-60A, an Air Force X-Plane for hypersonic flight research. Skyler worked across the aerospace sector with time spent at SpaceX, Aerospace Corporation, Northrop Grumman, and Aerojet. Skyler holds a Master of Science degree from Penn State and a Bachelor of Science degree from Cal Poly, both in Aerospace Engineering.

Most Recent Patents

N/A

Most Recent News Articles

Title: Startup Exosonic goes from supersonic boom to bust.

Publication Date: 13/11/2024

Abstract: Another example of how the bleeding edge aerospace sector is going through a massive shakeup has surfaced as civilian supersonic startup Exosonic has announced that it is going out of business after being unable to raise needed funding. When there's a boom in any technological field it goes through a number of phases some of which can be rather miserable for those involved. During the internet boom of the late 1990s, I was lucky enough to be working writing contracts in the epicenter of the era, Seattle, Washington. During that time, companies would sprout up like mushrooms in a park after an autumn rain. Any office space going would suddenly be filled by some new startup, furnished with furniture that cost a fortune and employing staff paid an even greater fortune. It was heady stuff rather like being witness to a gold rush. However, by the year 2000, the boom

URL: https://newatlas.com/aircraft/startup-exosonic-supersonic-boom/

Title: CEO of failed supersonic plane startup on what went wrong and how other companies might find success.

Publication Date: 13/11/2024

Abstract: A handful of startups are vying to revive supersonic flight, but one contender just dropped out of the race. Exosonic, which had been working for five years to build faster-than-sound jets for commercial and military use, announced its shutdown on Friday, citing a lack of continued funding and low customer interest. The company had two main projects a quiet passenger plane capable of Mach 1.8 speed and an uncrewed supersonic aircraft for fighter jet target practice. It had backing from private equity investors, a contract from the US Air Force, and a flying sub-scale prototype. In an interview with Business Insider, Exosonic CEO Norris Tie said the company hoped its Mach-speed airliner would drastically cut travel time between faraway nations. Crucial to the company's promise was work to eliminate the sonic boom that prevents supersonic planes from flying over land an issue that severely handicapped the legendary Concorde when it pioneered supersonic passenger

URL: https://www.businessinsider.com/exosonic-ceo-explains-why-his-strategy-supersonic-airliner-failed-2024-11



Title: Winners Announced For Aviation Week Networks 67th Annual Laureate Awards.

Publication Date: 11/11/2024

Abstract: Award honors outstanding achievements in aviation, aerospace & defense and winners will be recognized on March 6 in Washington, DC. WASHINGTON, November 11, 2024 Aviation Week Network announced today the recipients of the 67th Annual Laureate Awards (#AWLAUR), honoring extraordinary achievements in the global aerospace arena. Winners will be celebrated at the Laureate Awards, taking place on March 6, 2025 at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC. At that time a Grand Laureate in each of the five categories will be named from among the honorees. The award categories are Commercial Aviation, Defense, Space, Business Aviation, and MRO. In addition, Aviation Week Network will bestow awards for Lifetime Achievement and the Pathfinder Award. Four cadets and midshipmen from the U.S. military academies will be recognized as Tomorrows Leaders, honoring young men and women who have chosen career paths in the armed forces. The extraordinary innovations in aviation and space during this URL: https://aviationweek.com/aerospace/winners-announced-aviation-week-networks-67th-annual-laureate-awards

Title: Hypersonic jet able to fly from UK to NY in 2hrs step closer to 1st flight.

Publication Date: 14/10/2024

Abstract: A TEST site has been chosen for a new aircraft called The Quarterhorse MKII which is set to travel faster than the speed of sound. Hermeus, a hypersonic aircraft company has selected Cecil Airport in Jacksonville, Florida as its new engine test facility. The High Enthalpy Air-Breathing Test Facility broke ground last month and is set to be the largest and most advanced Hermeus test site. It will be constructed in stages with the first sea-level static engine test set to begin this year, according to Aerospace Manufacturing. It is hoped that once production on The Quarterhorse has started, the jet will be 'used as a platform for commercial testing and development efforts,' Hermeus said. The HEAT facility will support flight modelling by continually providing the conditions needed for hyper-supersonic and low-hypersonic flight. A series of engines and propulsion systems will undergo tests in Jacksonville including the Pratt & Whitney F100 engine and Hermeus' proprietary hypersonic

URL: https://www.thesun.co.uk/tech/31067911/hypersonic-jet-the-quarterhorse-hermeus-test-site/

Title: Hypersonic Spaceplane Can Travel From London to Sydney in Two HoursFive Times Sound's Speed. **Publication Date:** 18/09/2024

Abstract: Australia's space industry is being shaken by news of the Hypersonix Launch Systems announcement of a partnership with Southern Launch. The DART hypersonic spaceplane promised to fly at speeds five times faster than sound, and it will take off early in 2025 from one of the two Southern Launch spaceport sites. With bold plans to revolutionize the world of space travel, is preparing to test its breakthrough scramjet technology for the first time, promising thrilling new opportunities in defense and commercial ventures. DART Spaceplane to Take Off from Southern Australia's Coast The DART spaceplane will be launched from either the Eyre Peninsula or the Koonibba Test Range, two strategic sites managed by Southern Launch on Australia's southern coast. The first flight planned for the first quarter of 2025 will demonstrate Hypersonix's ability to push further than anyone else in aerospace innovation. The launching sequence would be a rocket launching the spaceplane into the atmosphere and

URL: https://www.techtimes.com/articles/307559/20240918/hypersonic-spaceplane-can-travel-london-sydney-two-hoursfive-times-sounds-speed.htm

Title: Hermeus Develops Hypersonic Aircraft to Surpass SR-71 Blackbird Speeds with Cutting Edge Chimera Engine Technology.

Publication Date: 14/09/2024

Abstract: The aviation world is witnessing a remarkable resurgence, with the ambitious goal of surpassing the speed records set by the legendary SR-71 Blackbird. Hermeus, a pioneering company, is at the forefront of this revolution, developing both military and civilian hypersonic aircraft. While the Darkhorse, an uncrewed military aircraft, aims to shatter the Blackbirds Mach 3 record, the Halcyon is poised to redefine commercial air travel with its unprecedented speed. Hermeuss journey towards these ambitious goals involves a series of meticulous steps. The company has been diligently developing and testing prototype aircraft, known as Quarterhorse Mk 1 and Quarterhorse Mk 2, to refine technologies and gather crucial data. The Quarterhorse



Mk 1, equipped with a General Electric J85 jet engine, is scheduled for remote controlled flight trials later this year. The Quarterhorse Mk 2, powered by a modified F100 engine, incorporates innovative precooler technology to enhance its speed and performance. As Hermeus continues

URL: https://daxstreet.com/aviation-news/211347/hermeus-develops-hypersonic-aircraft-to-surpass-sr-71-blackbird-speeds-with-cutting-edge-chimera-engine-technology/

Title: Hermeus To Build Hypersonic Engine and Flight Testing Facility in Florida.

Publication Date: 13/09/2024

Abstract: Hypersonic developer is investing \$135 million in the Jacksonville test site

URL: <a href="https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/aerospace/2024-09-13/hermeus-build-hypersonic-testing-to-tile-

facility-florida

Title: Hypersonic Plane Startup Hermes Making New Test Facilities.

Publication Date: 12/09/2024

Abstract: Hermeus is breaking ground on a new engine and flight test facility HEAT will accelerate US hypersonic development, offering increased testing cadence for not only Hermeus, but the DoD and larger defense industrial base. Hermeus has selected Cecil Airport in Jacksonville, Florida for its hypersonic engine test facility. Named HEAT (High Enthalpy Air-Breathing Test Facility), this facility will be Hermeus largest and most technologically advanced test site to date and become a national asset for hypersonic testing. The site will also be the initial base for Hermeus high-Mach flight test capabilities starting in 2026, expanding cadence and affordability of the nations flight test infrastructure. We announced our plans for the new facility at a groundbreaking ceremony at Cecil Airport in Jacksonville. Hermeus executives and employees were joined by U.S. Congressman Aaron Bean (FL- 04), U.S. Congressman John Rutherford (FL-05), State Sen. Clay Yarborough (R-Jacksonville), Mayor Donna Deegan, Florida Department of Commerce officials,

URL: https://www.nextbigfuture.com/2024/09/hypersonic-plane-startup-hermes-making-new-test-facilities.html

Title: Hermeus Celebrates Groundbreaking for Hypersonic Engine and Flight Test Facility in Jacksonville, Florida

Publication Date: 10/09/2024

Abstract: Hermeus has selected Cecil Airport in Jacksonville, Florida for its hypersonic engine test facility. Named HEAT (High Enthalpy Air-Breathing Test Facility), this facility will be Hermeus largest and most technologically advanced test site to date and become a national asset for hypersonic testing. The site will also be the initial base for Hermeus high-Mach flight test capabilities starting in 2026, expanding cadence and affordability of the nations flight test infrastructure. Hermeus announced their plans for the new facility at a groundbreaking ceremony at the Cecil Airport site. Hermeus executives and employees were joined by U.S. Congressman Aaron Bean (FL-04), U.S. Congressman John Rutherford (FL-05), State Sen. Clay Yarborough (R-Jacksonville), Mayor Donna Deegan, Florida Department of Commerce officials, JAXUSA officials, and other community leaders. The HEAT facility will provide continuous high flow rate, high enthalpy and low-pressure conditions required for high-supersonic and low-hypersonic flight modeling. This capability will make the facility an

URL: https://www.asdnews.com/news/defense/2024/09/10/hermeus-celebrates-groundbreaking-hypersonic-engine-flight-test-facility-jacksonville-florida

Title: Hermeus Selects Florida For Future Test Sites.

Publication Date: 09/09/2024

Abstract: Hypersonic vehicle startup Hermeus has announced plans to open an engine test facility and a flight test base at Cecil Airport in Jacksonville, Florida. The facilities will support testing of the Atlanta-based companys Quarterhorse and Darkhorse series of high-speed testbeds, along with the Chimera...

URL: https://aviationweek.com/defense/aircraft-propulsion/hermeus-selects-florida-future-test-sites

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References

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