# Dossier: RELIABLE ROBOTICS CORPORATION

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $1,806,360.00

**Award Date:** 2024-08-28

**Branch:** USAF

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Reliable Robotics Corporation is developing autonomous flight systems for existing aircraft, aiming to revolutionize air cargo, logistics, and passenger transport. Their primary mission is to automate the operation of aircraft from gate-to-gate, significantly reducing operational costs, improving safety, and addressing the pilot shortage within the aviation industry. They aim to solve the problems of high operating expenses, human error contributing to accidents, and the increasing difficulty of finding qualified pilots, particularly for regional and cargo airlines. Their unique value proposition lies in offering a retrofit autonomous system applicable to existing aircraft fleets, rather than requiring the development of entirely new autonomous aircraft.

**Technology Focus:**

* Development of an autonomous flight system, encompassing remote piloting, automated flight control, and comprehensive safety systems. This system includes redundant sensors, advanced computing, and sophisticated software algorithms designed to handle all phases of flight, from taxiing to landing, without human intervention onboard the aircraft.
* Focus on certifying autonomous flight systems under FAA regulations, including extensive testing and validation to ensure safety and reliability exceeding current aviation standards. They are working towards type certification for specific aircraft models.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* In November 2023, Reliable Robotics announced a partnership with the FAA to accelerate the certification process for its autonomous flight system. The company is actively engaged in demonstrating the capabilities of its system to regulatory bodies.
* In June 2021, Reliable Robotics raised $100 million in a Series C funding round led by Coatue Management. The funding is intended to accelerate the certification and deployment of its autonomous flight system on cargo aircraft.
* Demonstration of fully autonomous flight capabilities on a Cessna 172 and a larger aircraft, the Cessna 208 Caravan, showcasing the scalability of their technology. These demonstrations included successful gate-to-gate autonomous flights.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Robert Rose (Co-founder & CEO):\*\* Previously served as an engineer at SpaceX and developed flight software for the Falcon 9 rocket.
* Juerg Frefel (Co-founder & CTO):\*\* Former engineer at SpaceX and researcher at the NASA Ames Research Center, specializing in autonomous systems and robotics.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Xwing:\*\* Another company developing autonomous flight technology, focusing on cargo applications and specifically targeting the Cessna 208 Caravan. Reliable Robotics differentiates itself by emphasizing a broader approach to autonomous aviation, applicable to multiple aircraft types and potentially including passenger transport in the future, as well as a rigorous focus on certification.

**Sources:**

1. [https://reliable.ai/](https://reliable.ai/)

2. [https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/reliable-robotics](https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/reliable-robotics)

3. [https://www.faa.gov/](https://www.faa.gov/) (For regulatory information)

4. [https://techcrunch.com/2021/06/08/reliable-robotics-raises-100m-to-fly-aircraft-without-pilots/](https://techcrunch.com/2021/06/08/reliable-robotics-raises-100m-to-fly-aircraft-without-pilots/)