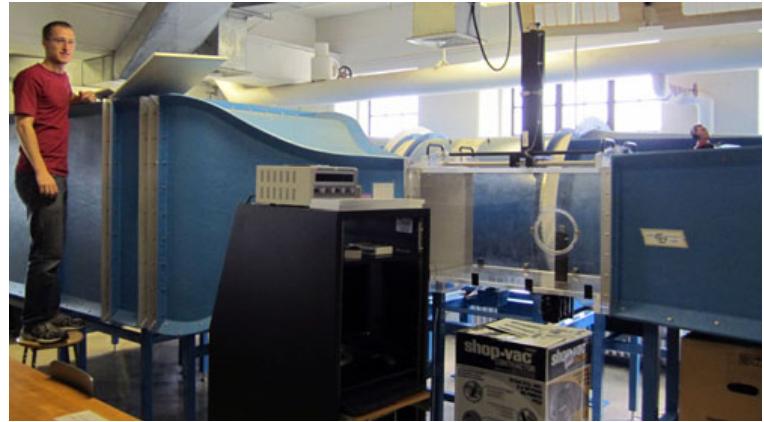


WIND TUNNEL DRONE TESTING - AEROTARGETS INTERNATIONAL



What?

- Scaled down a military-use drone to perform tests in a wind tunnel to evaluate performance characteristics.
- Split experiment into 3 phases focusing on (1) preliminary **aerodynamic stability** studies, (2) a scaled up model at a higher Re used for extensive drag tests with panels off and (3) with panels on.

How?

- Build a **4-bar linkage structure** that allows change to all angles needed.
- Used **SolidWorks** to scale down and alter model for **compatibility** with force sensor / wind tunnel.
- Utilized an NI DAQ card and **MATLAB** to **acquire and process data**.

Results

- Phase 1 revealed that the model is **dynamically stable** in both pitch and roll motions around its CG and weakly stable in yaw.
- Phase 2 and 3 showed a **lower drag coefficient**, increasing its L/D ratio.
- Communicated with AeroTargets engineers to recommend fuselage design modifications, **achieving a 10% drag reduction**.

