

Skygauge Robotics – Project Summary



Company Overview

Skygauge Robotics began in 2016 as a team of 3 people focused on reinventing the drone to perform tasks that are impossible with existing drones. Since then, their new drone design has been patented, \$3.8 million in venture capital funding has been secured, and the company has grown to have 8 full time employees working passionately on the product. The first application of the product is within the Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) industry. Current methods require workers to use ropes and scaffolding. Using the Skygauge, workers can perform these jobs 5-20x faster and safer by remaining on the ground. The Skygauge is the most stable drone on the market, tilting its propeller blocks move instead of the airframe. This feature enables it to take accurate ultrasonic thickness measurements at height. Skygauge Robotics has completed the proof of concept and will be shipping the first commercial units in late 2021.



Project Goals

The goal of our project is to gain a deep and comprehensive understanding of an oil and gas company's NDT operations, conduct pilot testing for the Skygauge drone on partner assets, and further develop our offering to suit our client's needs. We will conduct a comparison study, evaluating existing NDT methods against the use of the Skygauge drone. Gathering quantitative data regarding cost and time spent will allow us to better define how we improve operational efficiency over traditional access and testing methods. This data will be conducted via interviews and analyses of previous job metrics. Once this data has been ascertained, the information will be used in the planning of future improvements, features, and capabilities of the Skygauge drone.

Project Offering

Skygauge Robotics has invented a stable drone capable of performing Ultrasonic and Visual Non-Destructive Testing (NDT), allowing companies to access and monitor structures without putting workers in hazardous situations. Use of the Skygauge drone also leads to greater plant uptime and lower inspection costs. We will be able to support our partner company in utilizing the Skygauge to conduct NDT inspections.

As an Early Adopter, our partner company will also receive a variety of perks. Firstly, Skygauge Robotics will provide the pilot training and certification at no additional cost to the company. Our partner company will also be among the first to unlock new capabilities and features of the Skygauge as they are released. Feedback they give will be incorporated into future development of the drone. We are hoping to understand the needs of our partner company's business such that our solution can provide meaningful value.