Brazil’s Civil Aviation Authority Approves senseFly’s Flagship eBee X
Fixed-wing Drone for Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) Operations

CHESEAUX-SUR-LAUSANNE, Switzerland, 20 July 2021 – senseFly, the global leader in fixed-wing mapping drones – in collaboration with drone engineering and consulting specialists AL Drones and geotechnology company Santiago & Cintra – today announces that the National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC) has approved Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) flights to be carried out in Brazil using senseFly’s flagship eBee X fixed-wing drone.

Building on the momentum of a fast-growing commercial drone industry, ANAC’s decision means that the senseFly eBee X is officially approved for use in future BVLOS missions carried out by Brazilian drone operators. The drone received approval by demonstrating the safety requirements of the ANAC RBAC-E94 Regulation for Unmanned Aircraft, through detailed engineering analyses and in-depth flight testing. Following the certification, senseFly eBee X operators in Brazil now only require a CAER (Special Airworthiness Certificate for RPA) waiver for the aircraft with Santiago & Cintra before flying BVLOS operations.

“The commercial drone industry in Brazil has been growing at a phenomenal rate – and we’re excited that the senseFly eBee X is at the forefront of these regulatory developments,” said Pierre-Alain Marchand, Regulatory Compliance Manager, senseFly. “BVLOS is becoming an important tool for operators as they start to explore the potential of more advanced drone operations, and we’re pleased that our technology continues to help define frameworks and legislation in the country. Historic approvals passed in recent years has shown us that Brazil is one of the countries to watch for drone commercialization, so continue to watch this space!”

The authorization comes following landmark approval of senseFly’s proprietary drone technology in 2017, where the use of drones for civil applications in Brazil were legislated as part of the RBAC-E94 regulation. senseFly drones became the first and only in the country permitted to fly 400 ft (120 m) in height with a 5 km radius from a licensed pilot or observer, instead of previous VLOS operations, which restricted the current use of drones to a 500 m radius.

"The authorization of senseFly’s eBee X for BVLOS operations is another step towards commercialization of the sector,” says André Arruda, co-founder of AL DRONES. “After years of collective hard work and effort from all parties, this certification presents a real opportunity for operators in the future to expand their mapping operations and achieve a robust return-on-investment. We look forward to seeing what this means for BVLOS operations in Brazil in the coming years.”

senseFly’s flagship eBee X fixed-wing drone revolutionized the unmanned aerial vehicle sector with its ease-of-use and multiple, state-of-the-art sensors designed to suit a wide range of mapping jobs. At just 1.6 kg (3.5 lbs.), eBee X is a lightweight, ultra-portable solution that is easy for a single person to operate. With a unique Endurance Extension option enabling a flight time of up to 90 minutes and single-flight coverage of up to 500 ha at 122m (1,236 A at 400 ft.), the eBee X is a premium drone that offers users the high-precision of on-demand RTK/PPK for achieving absolute accuracy of down to 1.5 cm (0.6 in) – without ground control points. This capability makes the eBee X ideal for BVLOS operations such as long corridor mapping missions for utility companies, expansive crop scouting in agriculture and by enterprise customers who desire a robust and professional drone fleet.

To find out more, visit www.sensefly.com
About senseFly

At senseFly, we believe in using technology to make work safer and more efficient. As the global leader in fixed-wing drones, our proven drone solutions simplify the collection and analysis of geospatial data, allowing professionals in surveying, agriculture, engineering, and humanitarian aid to make better decisions, faster. The company is a commercial drone subsidiary of Parrot Group. For more information, visit www.senseFly.com, and follow us on LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook.

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