

# PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release



## Drones provide humanitarian aid in Haiti

**Ecublens, Switzerland – May 28<sup>th</sup> 2013: senseFly's drones have accomplished their second mission in Haiti to map areas around Port-au-Prince and Cap Haitien, including areas damaged by hurricane Sandy in October 2012.**



After a first successful mission in 2012 with the UNITAR<sup>1</sup> using senseFly's swinglet CAM, the IOM<sup>2</sup> recently teamed up with Drone Adventures<sup>3</sup> for a mission using senseFly's latest drone, the eBee.

Over 45km<sup>2</sup> were covered in under a week. 3D maps were created to identify dangerous river beds in order to plan infrastructures and protect dense urban encampments from

flooding. On top of this several shantytowns were mapped to help organize the census of the population, distribute aid and develop infrastructure.

Working with drones to map an area allowed the IOM to significantly cut the costs compared to the use of planes or satellites. Thanks to its autopilot, the eBee is very easy to operate even under difficult meteorological conditions and with minimum landing space.

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### About senseFly

senseFly is a Swiss company that develops and produces autonomous ultralight flying drones (also called UAVs) and related software solutions. The technology behind senseFly's solution first emerged in 2001, when a team of robotic researchers at EPFL began investigating the control and navigation strategies of flying insects. This pioneering research enabled the development of a highly integrated autopilot employing smart control strategies similar to those found in flies and bees. senseFly was founded in late 2009 and launched its first commercial product shortly after. The swinglet CAM is a flying drone for aerial imagery acquisition and mapping. In 2012 senseFly joined the Parrot Group and is since then more than ever pioneering the field of flying drones for mapping and GIS applications. Its latest product, the eBee, was launched in October 2012. The company currently counts about 40 employees.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations Institute for Training and Research

<sup>2</sup> International Organization for Migration

<sup>3</sup> Drone Adventures is a young non-profit organization based in Lausanne. Their goal is to promote the great potential of drones in civilian applications, focusing on conservation, humanitarian, cultural and search and rescue domains