## **MEDIA RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# AMSL AERO UNVEILS BREAKTHROUGH RESULTS OF HYDROGEN AVIATION TESTING AT BANKSTOWN AIRPORT

Australia's long-range electric VTOL aircraft steps closer to zeroemission flight with successful testing programme



**Sydney, Australia – 26 May 2025 – <u>AMSL Aero</u>**, Australia's zero-emission aircraft designer and manufacturer, is proud to announce the successful completion of its first year of hydrogen fuel cell testing at **Bankstown Airport**, positioning it for emission-free flight testing within 12 months.

Positive results from the pioneering tests at one of Australia's busiest airports have propelled AMSL Aero closer to its goal of decarbonising essential air services such as medical transfers, passenger, and freight services. AMSL Aero's hybrid electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft, **Vertiia**, will fly 1000km on hydrogen, making air transport cheaper and greener nationwide.

The tests' results reveal that since mid-2024, AMSL Aero has used more than 200 kilograms of hydrogen. That is enough to fill an Olympic swimming pool at atmospheric pressure and successfully power its 100kW fuel cell test bench, the only known facility of its kind in Australia.

The test bench works as a fully functional mock-up of the hydrogen powertrain for Vertiia, which <u>made Australian aviation history in late 2024 by making its first free flights</u>. AMSL Aero has won orders for Vertiias from general aviation operators including Bankstown Airport-based <u>Aviation</u> <u>Logistics</u>, making it one of the few eVTOL manufacturers worldwide to have secured cash deposits.

"In just one year, our world-class engineering team has successfully demonstrated the practical applications of hydrogen in aviation," said **Chris Smallhorn, Chairman of AMSL Aero**. "Our collaboration with Bankstown Airport is instrumental in our ongoing mission to offer longer-distance flights that cut both the cost and carbon footprint of travel across Australia and elsewhere."

**Simon Coburn, Hydrogen Lead at AMSL Aero**, said the 200kg of hydrogen used was sufficient to export 30kW of electricity into the airport grid for three working weeks and slash the airport's power

bill by about 1.8MWh. He added: "Our fuel cell test bench has not only validated our aircraft's powertrain but has also contributed to the airport's energy needs."

**Tom Smith, CEO of Aeria Management Group**, operator of Bankstown Airport, said: "Bankstown Airport is leading the way in the national flight path towards net-zero aviation. Thanks to AMSL Aero, Bankstown Airport became the first airport in Australia to introduce hydrogen as aviation fuel.

"A year on, we are proud to continue working with the pioneering team at AMSL Aero to land hydrogen-fuelled flights for all Australians, including essential emergency and aeromedical services in regional and rural Australia."

AMSL Aero has also deployed the test bench to Wellington Aerodrome in rural NSW for recharging Vertiia between test flights.

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For further information, AMSL Aero's Media Kit and photography <u>can be found here</u>. Please request access if needed.

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#### About AMSL Aero

AMSL Aero is an Australian sustainable aviation development company founded in 2017. The company's headquarters are in Bankstown, Sydney, Australia, with flight test facilities in regional New South Wales. AMSL Aero's world-class team has international experience across all aspects of aerospace design, flight testing, manufacturing, certification, and aviation business professionals. AMSL Aero is backed by private investors including IP Group Australia, Telstra Super, Host Plus and StB Capital Partners, and the Australian Government. Further information about AMSL Aero – www.amslaero.com

## About Aeria Management Group

Aeria Management Group (AMG) operates Bankstown Airport and Camden Airport, in South West Sydney, which are home to NSW's air emergency and aeromedical services, flight training schools and emerging net-zero aviation technologies, such as hydrogen-powered aircraft. AMG's airports are major economic and employment hubs, contributing more than \$1.8 billion a year to the NSW economy and supporting 9000 jobs, across critical sectors such as aviation, manufacturing, retail, distribution and logistics. AMG is owned by Aware Super, one of Australia's largest profit-formembers funds with 1.1 million-plus members – many of whom are essential workers.

# **AMSL Aero Vertiia Fact Sheet**

- Vertiia is a highly efficient long-range zero-emissions VTOL (Vertical Take Off and Landing) aircraft due to its unique combination of aerodynamic efficiency and structural design
- Vertiia takes off and lands vertically like a helicopter, and flies fast and efficiently like a fixedwing aeroplane. It is safer, quieter, and more efficient than a helicopter
- Vertiia has the potential to operate with zero carbon emissions by using green hydrogen
- The initial civil aircraft will be certified for piloted flight, with autonomy systems installed for future remote piloted applications
- Vertiia will have a cost to operate in the longer term comparable with short-range (domestic) airliners but has the advantage of taking passengers from door to door due to not requiring a runway
- Vertiia's light air ambulance setup will seat a pilot, a paramedic and/or doctor and patient, or it can be configured to carry passengers (1 pilot + 4pax) or freight
- Vertiia will cruise at 300km/h and its range will be up to 1,000km on hydrogen power
- AMSL Aero holds international patents for Vertiia, protecting its core technological features, including its unique wing tilting mechanism, combined with its box wing design and flight control system
- Vertiia is an eight electric motor tilting wing aircraft that can operate from a helipad or similar size landing site
- Vertiia has the capability to connect regional hubs and, due to the small number of seats, it can conduct on-demand (unscheduled) services to reduce excess capacity (empty seats)