

## **HAPSMobile Successfully Completes Second HAWK30 Solar HAPS Test Flight**

HAPSMobile Inc. ("HAPSMobile"), a subsidiary of SoftBank Corp. (TOKYO:9434) and minority-owned by AeroVironment, Inc. (NASDAQ: AVAV), today announced the second successful test flight of the HAWK30 solar-powered high-altitude platform system (HAPS) that took place on October 23, 2019 (PT) at the NASA Armstrong Flight Research Center in California.

The test flight reached altitudes higher than those of the previous flight and lasted longer at one hour and 34 minutes. The HAWK30 successfully achieved more than two dozen test points, including 180-degree turns and further validation of avionics, power and propulsion performance. The team also simulated precise landing control on the runway, similar to its commercial operation concept.



Photo credit: NASA/Carla Thomas

After operations at AFRC, HAPSMobile plans to transport HAWK30 to the Hawaiian island of Lanai and is accelerating preparations to perform stratospheric test flights at Lanai within the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020.

"We're extremely pleased that the second test flight was a success. Seeing the HAWK30 fly gracefully, even under greater turbulence at higher altitudes, has given us confidence for future flights," said Junichi Miyakawa, Representative Director & CTO of SoftBank Corp., and also President & CEO of HAPSMobile. "We'll carefully verify the data from this test and move forward with preparations to conduct stratospheric flight tests. We'll continue to work toward our ultimate goal of bridging the world's digital divide and revolutionizing mobile connectivity by leveraging the HAPS platform."

"Our team is delivering outstanding results to achieve our joint goal of addressing a very large market opportunity and connecting people around the globe," said Wahid Nawabi, AeroVironment Chief Executive Officer and a Director of HAPSMobile. "This was our second consecutive successful test flight in which we achieved important program objectives and demonstrated AeroVironment's unique solar HAPS capabilities and experience. We thank our flight test partner, NASA, for its ongoing support with their facilities and flight test range as we validate this innovative unmanned aircraft system."

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### **About HAPSMobile**

HAPSMobile Inc. is a subsidiary of SoftBank Corp. that plans and operates a High Altitude Platform Station (HAPS) business with the aim of bridging the world's digital divide. HAPSMobile is primarily engaged in network equipment research and development for the HAPS business, construction of core networks, new business planning and activities for spectrum usage. AeroVironment, Inc. is HAPSMobile's minority owner and aircraft development partner for "HAWK30," a solar-powered unmanned aircraft designed for stratospheric telecommunications platform systems that flies approximately 20kms above ground in the stratosphere. HAPSMobile has a strategic relationship with Loon, a subsidiary of Alphabet, the parent company of Google. For more information, please visit <https://www.hapsmobile.com>.