



Flight Technology Panel: Autonomous Airships, Drones, and Flying Cars

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The Goodyear Blimp



Great Branding!

Everyone knew Goodyear, especially kids.



Airship Revival?

I think not for passenger service:

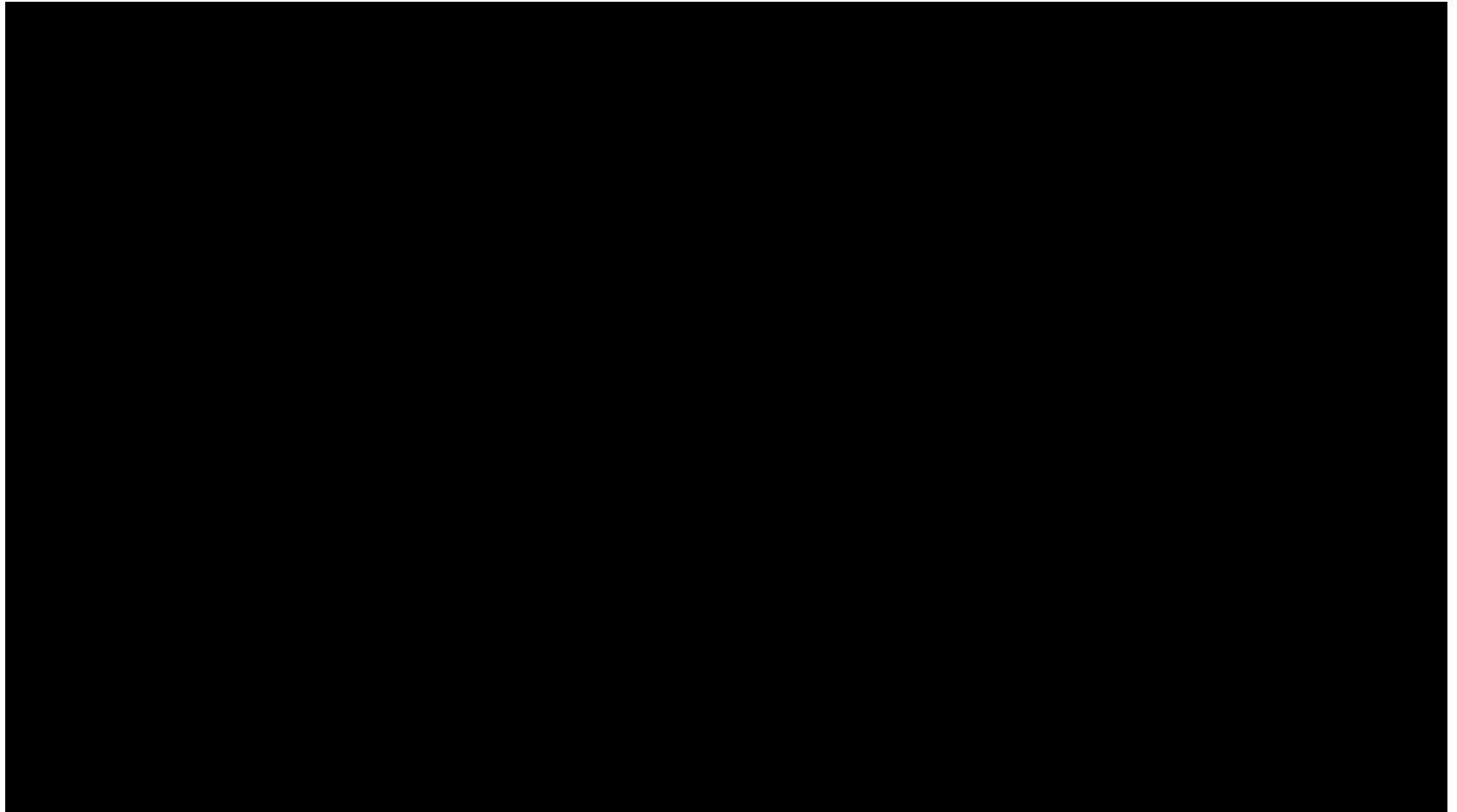
- Too slow, ground facilities impractical, affected by weather.
- Helium shortage?

But potential uses for unmanned stationary airships above the weather:

- Wide-area Internet and Cell-phone coverage.
- Monitoring environmental conditions, including man-made.
- Some competition from drones, but they are short-lived.

Still could be very useful for advertising, communications

My Favorite Airship



Imagine Your Personal Shopping Guide...

... in the form of an automated, talking flying shark.

“Follow me to aisle 10 – we have a great special on tuna!”

Theft will go WAY down.

But be careful – we don't want people carrying harpoons into the stores to keep the sharks away.

It would be up to the communications professionals to write scripts that keep this fun and non-threatening.

It's 2016 – Where's My Flying Car?

In the 20th Century, everyone thought we'd have these by now, and everybody wanted one.

But problems persist:

- Car/airplane combos are not the right thing.
- Today's helicopters are not the right thing.
- Want big N-copters with ducted fans. Drive on ground also?
- Quiet – probably electrical motors, but need better batteries.
- For widespread use, the controls must be *very* intuitive.
- Maybe self-flying.
- Need to figure out “rules of the road”.
- **Must solve the legal problems for autonomous cars, ground or flying.**

Drone Control – Juggling!

The Flying Machine Arena Quadrocopter Ball Juggling



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Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Hoverboard – Almost Ready

