Boeing and SparkCognition to Launch Joint Venture SkyGrid

New company will build AI- and blockchain-powered airspace management software platform

AUSTIN, Texas, Nov. 20, 2018 -- Boeing [NYSE: BA] and SparkCognition today announced plans to launch SkyGrid, a new company that will enable the future of urban aerial mobility. Based in Austin, Texas, SkyGrid will develop a software platform to ensure the safe, secure integration of autonomous cargo and passenger air vehicles in the global airspace.

Using blockchain technology, AI-enabled dynamic traffic routing, data analytics and cybersecurity features, SkyGrid's platform will go beyond unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) traffic management (UTM). The platform will enable SkyGrid customers to safely perform a broad range of missions and services using UAS, including package delivery, industrial inspections and emergency assistance.

"The Boeing and SparkCognition partnership is unmatched in industry today," said Steve Nordlund, vice president and general manager of Boeing NeXt. "SkyGrid is building the digital infrastructure that will make safe, seamless commercial and personal transport possible for billions of people around the world."

"SkyGrid merges expertise in AI, blockchain, security and aviation to deliver breakthrough technological advancements for the rapidly-growing urban aerial mobility industry," said Amir Husain, who will serve as CEO of SkyGrid in addition to his role as founder and CEO of SparkCognition. "By offering scalable and robust capabilities in a single, integrated framework, SkyGrid will make large-scale air vehicle applications more practical and accessible."

With award-winning machine learning technology, a multinational footprint, and expert teams focused on defense, industrial internet of things, and finance, SparkCognition builds AI systems to advance the most important interests of society. Their customers turn to SparkCognition to help them analyze complex data, empower decision making, and transform human and industrial productivity. Learn more about SparkCognition's AI applications and why the company was featured in CNBC's 2017 Disruptor 50 and recognized two years in a row on CB Insights AI 100 by visiting www.sparkcognition.com.

Boeing is the world's largest aerospace company and leading manufacturer of commercial jetliners and defense, space and security systems. A top U.S. exporter, the company supports airlines and U.S. and allied government customers in more than 150 countries. Boeing products and tailored services include commercial and military aircraft, satellites, weapons, electronic and defense systems, launch systems, advanced information and communication systems, and performance-based logistics and training.

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