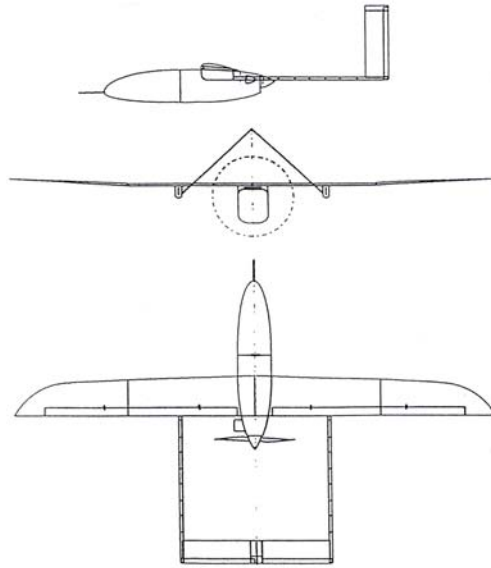


Aerosonde

Users: U.S. Air Force, NASA, NSF, various nation's weather/research agencies

Manufacturer: AAI

Inventory: 100+ Delivered (2006)



Background: Aerosonde is a long endurance (38 hr flight demonstrated) small UAS. It became the first UA to fly across the Atlantic on 20-21 Aug 1998. It can carry a family of compact payloads including TV cameras, IR cameras, ESM, or jammer electronics. Aerosonde (5 aircraft) is currently operating at NASA's Wallops Island Flight Facility, at an arctic facility in Barrow, Alaska, and at two locations in Australia. The Office of Naval Research purchased several aircraft along with services for instrument/payload development in the late 1990s. Aerosonde also flies from Guam under the USAF Weather Scout Foreign Cooperative Test (5-8 aircraft).

Characteristics:

	Aerosonde		Aerosonde
Length	5.7 ft	Wing Span	9.4 ft
Gross Weight	33 lb	Payload Capacity	2 lb
Fuel Capacity	10 lb	Fuel Type	Gasoline
Engine Make	1xEnya R120	Power	1
Data Link(s)	C2	Frequency	UHF
	Data		UHF

Performance:

Endurance	38 hr	Max/Loiter Speeds	56/40 kt
Ceiling	20,000 ft	Radius	1,000 nm
Takeoff Means	Car roof rack	Landing Means	Skid
Sensor	Meteorological (PTH)	Sensor Make	Vaisala

