FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**“FUNDING YOUR DREAM” KICKS OFF INNOVATION IN AVIATION AT AIRVENTURE**

AeroInnovate celebrates ten-year anniversary with a panel discussion to educate entrepreneurs and investors on the unique challenges of starting and funding an aviation business

Oshkosh, WI (July 17, 2018)—AeroInnovate the leading accelerator for early-stage companies in the aviation, aerospace, and drone industries is hosting a panel discussion at EAA AirVenture called “Funding Your Dream.” The panel will provide the audience an understanding of what it takes to start and fund an aerospace company from the perspectives of successful entrepreneurs and seasoned investors.

“Startup founders at various stages of growth will share stories about their path from idea to market,“ according to AeroInnovate Director Steve Slocum. “And, we round out the panel with aviation-focused investors will also give their perspective and advice on what they’re looking for in startup funding opportunities.”

The panel is on the first day of AirVenture, Monday, July 23rd from 4:00 to 5:15 PM at the Aviation Gateway Park Forums Tent. The panel moderator is Tom Perkowski, Co-Founder, Eagle Cap Software, an AeroInnovate alumnus company. The panel will consist of two entrepreneurs AeroInnovate alumnus and Shark Tank participant Tom Burden,

“For our ten-year anniversary we wanted to find new ways of educating aviation entrepreneurs,” said Slocum. “‘We are happy to sponsor the Funding Your Dream panel which will be the kickoff event in an exciting year highlighting innovation in aviation at AirVenture.”

AeroInnovate also is also hosting 10th Annual Pitch & Mingle on Wednesday, July 25, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, Alumni Welcome and Conference Center. EFX Applied Technology, Kerr Avionics, Ramper Innovations, and Vita Inclinata, the four companies in the 2018 accelerator cohort will pitch to aviation investors, industry professionals, and enthusiasts.

More information on all the AeroInnovate events at AirVenture along with signup links are at https://aeroinnovate.org/index.php/eaa-airventure-oshkosh-2018/.

**About AeroInnovate**

Founded in 2007, AeroInnovate helps aviation and aerospace entrepreneurs from across the globe start and grow aero-related businesses and bring related new technologies to the marketplace. The program goal is to facilitate the alignment of passionate, successful investors and industry leaders with the best aviation-related opportunities in the world. AeroInnovate is a program of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Business Success Center and is partially funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Defense – Office of Economic Adjustment. For more information on AeroInnovate, visit aeroinnovate.org.

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