

FLYING MOTORCYCLE

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FLYING MOTORCYCLE ENTERS THE MARKET AT SUN 'N FUN

(LAKELAND, FLORIDA) After 12 years of development, a flying motorcycle will enter the marketplace at the 2006 Sun 'n Fun Fly-In, said Larry Neal, president of The Butterfly, L. L. C. Our US Patent #6,978,969 on a Fly-Drive Vehicle was issued on December 27, 2005.

The Super Sky Cycle can be seen at The Butterfly, L. L. C. 's display located at Choppertown, space H1.

“We are building gyroplanes that drive, not just motorcycles that fly,” Neal said. “Our lightweight gyroplanes fly well, so we add lightweight rear drive systems. We call the result a “Fly-Drive Vehicle,” and we’re flying it now.”

“The kit gyroplane is licensed as an Experimental aircraft. Because it only has three wheels, it can also be licensed as a homebuilt motorcycle,” Neal said. “Being able to license the same vehicle to fly and to drive is what makes this ‘flying motorcycle’ design practical.”

Neal said that a major problem with fixed wing ‘flying car ideas’ in the past was what to do with the wings after landing. “The wings of a gyroplane are the rotor blades, and we have designed them to fold up shorter than the vehicle,” Neal said. “So we can land, fold up the rotor blades, disengage the propeller, engage the rear wheel transmission, and drive down the road.”

The Flying Motorcycle, called the Super Sky Cycle, is based on the company’s lightweight single-seat Monarch gyroplane. With a 66-horsepower engine, it keeps up with traffic on the ground and in the air, Neal said. We are prototyping an Aerotwin engine now and will also have a Harley Davidson powered model soon.

Stability of the gyroplane is enhanced with centerline thrust and an ample horizontal stabilizer. Neal said that the special “G-Force” landing gear is used, which has been tested to more than 700-ft/minute vertical descents all the way to the ground.

“Our original intent was to build a Fly-Drive vehicle that could be parked in the garage, driven to the airport (or other approved take off and landing area), and flown to a destination. Once there, it could be driven from the airport or approved (TOALA) on public roads,” Neal said. “We achieved that, and in the process we created and patented a whole new type of vehicle. We created a Fly-Drive Vehicle.”

“NASA has carried this idea even farther, envisioning special airspace routes that work like freeway HOV lanes, and a nationwide airway network for ‘Personal Air Vehicles’,” Neal said. “The Model T-type flying motorcycle we have today could evolve into a vehicle that leaps over freeway congestion during city-to-city trips.”

Neal will give a press conference on the flying motorcycle on Wednesday, April 5th at 2:00 p.m. at the media center. He will also give a forum on ‘Flying Cars’ on Friday, April 7th at 9:00 a.m. in Tent #9.

For website information on the flying motorcycle, see www.thebutterflyllc.com

You may also contact The Butterfly, L. L. C. Information Department at: P. O. Box 927, Boyd, Texas 76023, or phone 940-627-9887.