

**P**ITOT**S**HIELDS<sup>™</sup> SAFETY PITOT COVERS



## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release: October 12, 2021

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## DEGROFF LAUNCHES NEW COST-SAVING TECHNOLOGY THAT INCREASES SAFETY AND REDUCES HUMAN ERROR

**BERNE, INDIANA** - DeGroff Aviation Technologies (NBAA-BACE 2021, Booth #3211) announces the release of its new PitotShield V2<sup>™</sup> with SmartCover<sup>™</sup> technology, a fail-safe 'smart' pitot cover for turbine aircraft. Developed specifically for turbine aircraft, the device protects the pitot tube while on the ground. Should it not be removed during preflight, its design ensures it safely ejects, within two to five minutes of pitot heat activation, immediately restoring flight-critical air data system function.

First unveiled as a concept at NBAA 2019 and Singapore 2020, SmartCover<sup>™</sup> technology was considered breakthrough protection of the air data system for turbine aircraft with passively heated pitot tubes. Subsequent requests for the product led to the commercial development of the device.

"Airlines and other turbine aircraft operators are vulnerable to human error and were experiencing rejected take-offs and air-interrupts from pitot covers not being removed or from blocked pitot tubes," says DeGroff Aviation Technologies Founder Dr. Steven DeGroff. "These events are highly significant in terms of aircraft and passenger safety, as is the cost of interrupted schedules and aircraft damage."

The patent pending PitotShield V2<sup>™</sup> with SmartCover<sup>™</sup> technology fits nearly every turbine aircraft pitot tube. Made of frangible heat-resistant polymer and a thermal actuator, it provides a secure non-marring fit. If left on at power-up, it releases within two to five minutes. It includes bright orange streamer with an omni-reflective accent, for increased visibility day or night.

The PitotShield V2<sup>™</sup> with SmartCover<sup>™</sup> technology is now in production and is on display with live demonstrations at NBAA-BACE 2021 Booth #3211.