Paul Stevens - CEO of Voltitude Ltd, a company Unlocking the Stratosphere.

Paul Stevens is the CEO of Voltitude Ltd and the former Head of Design for the Airbus Zephyr High-Altitude Pseudo Satellite (HAPS) program. He established Voltitude Ltd, a new company dedicated to “Unlocking the Stratosphere®”, and leads the development of High-Altitude Platforms, technology, applications, and payloads, and has spent over 20years developing and demonstrating HAPS systems and technology. Paul is a Physicist by academic training and a Chartered Engineer specializing in System Engineering for HAPS.

Voltitude’s design team has an amazing heritage of know-how and experience; we were the core team behind the Zephyr solar electric aircraft, which is owned and operated by Airbus.

Voltitude operates a novel solution to enhancing global weather forecast accuracy and improve long-range warning of extreme weather events, by dispensing micro-dropsondes from stratospheric platforms over remote regions of the globe. Our delivery platform is the “StratoSonde®” system, a biodegradable HAB, weighing less than 3kg with up to 7days endurance. The StratoSonde can navigate by changing altitude and float at specific wind layers, allowing it to drift to targeted regions of interest.

As well as Earth System observation payloads, Voltitude develops a range of ISR, Comms Relay and wideband stratospheric connectivity systems. The StratoSonde balloon system can also support additional 3rd party payloads up to 3kg, permitting low-cost stratospheric test and evaluation, coupled with ground testing using our thermal vacuum chamber. Voltitude’s end-to-end stratospheric payload test and evaluation service, benefits from our proprietary payload thermal management system, to ensure rapidly integration of the latest payload technologies into both lighter-than-air and fixed-wing stratospheric platforms.

Voltitude believes that the main industry challenges are increasing platform availability, reliability, and improving compatibility/interoperability of payloads between different HAPS platforms to reduce cost of demonstration and cost of global service delivery. Voltitude’s technology is solving these industry wide challenges.