

## Solar Impulse Flight Test, the Solar-Powered Aircraft

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Friday, 23 July 2010 11:28

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Many projects are discovering recent inventions nowadays and many experts dedicate this invention for the brighter future for people and lives on earth. The new discovery recently reported is the Solar Impulse, the plane that is designed to have slender and long wing has been successfully carrying out a 26-hour flight last Thursday. This solar-powered plane completed the long-hour flight empowered by 12.000 solar cells as well as lithium batteries that gains power from the sunlight.

This plane endured the successful voyage through Switzerland at height of 28.000 feet and it flew with 78 mph speed. It is said this Solar Impulse's flight is the longest test flight with solar power. According to its project team, the flight was not needed to prolong because every single thing expected from the aircraft has been proven.

In further details, the plane project was actually started by the end of 2003. During the project, an expert who completed a nonstop balloon flight around the world was involved, he is Bertrand Piccard. Based on Piccard statement, the plane is an amazing manifestation, as a solar-empowered aircraft the invention has become a highly symbolic moment. The flight it performed was also another great moment people would notice. This way, it also has become prospective effort of clean technology to be presented to the world as the dependency on fossil fuels can be decreased.

The plane was piloted by a 57-year former Swiss air force fighter pilot, named Andre Borschberg. Moreover, regarding the design of the plane, an analyst from The Gabriel Group, Dan Olds, the plane has bigger wing than other commercial airliner. This way, the plane is designed to able to gather the energy during the day to be further used in night flight.

Even though no one can predict when the plane will come to horizon, this discovery has been really stunning and remarkable. Dan Olds added, this solar-powered aircraft may not be flying any soon, but Solar Impulse has started the energy boost comes from solar power.

Furthermore, Dan Olds also argued that in future you may see that many vehicles will use solar cells as power although it will have a long way in the future. But the vital question should be answered can be the points regarding its cost and benefit. People must think about the efficiency of cells and whether it is worth to pay or not. Also, the project team should consider the durability and reliability of the solar-powered vehicles.