

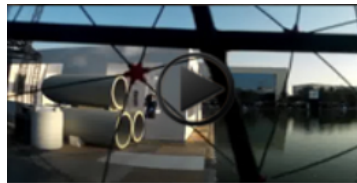
## Spin Fund holders Flyability win first UAE Drones for Good competition

**Flyability, a spin off company from LIS, EPFL and NCCR Robotics have won the inaugural UAE Drones for Good competition with Gimball, the world's first crash resilient drone.**

The award was initiated by Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai with the aim of "transforming these exciting technologies into practical solutions for improving people's lives today". Also referred to as "the World Cup of Drones", the competition involved the 39 semi finalists showcasing their technology in front of a panel of international judges. Flyability really impressed observers with its ability to fly in disaster zones with small and cluttered areas, outside the direct line of sight of the pilot, and to safely interact with humans in flight and the team was awarded a 1M USD prize money.



The Gimball is a unique design of flying robot which actively invites collisions rather than trying to avoid them, aided by its rotating gimbal system and protective wire cage. Flyability SA is one year old and its founders, Adrien Briod and Patrick Thévoz are working to bring the Gimball to market, with the aim of using it for industrial inspection and to locate victims after natural disasters before tackling the security and entertainment markets.



Video footage of Gimball at the competition

**A press pack containing downloadable images and videos is available. For enquiries please contact Communication Officer Linda Seward: [linda.seward@epfl.ch](mailto:linda.seward@epfl.ch) +41 (0) 21 693 73 16 / +41 (0) 44 632 36 38**

### NCCR Robotics

The Swiss National Center of Competence in Robotics (NCCR Robotics) is a federally funded programme bringing together robotics laboratories from EPFL, ETH Zurich, University of Zurich and University of Lugano to work on wearable, rescue and educational robots.

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9th February 2015