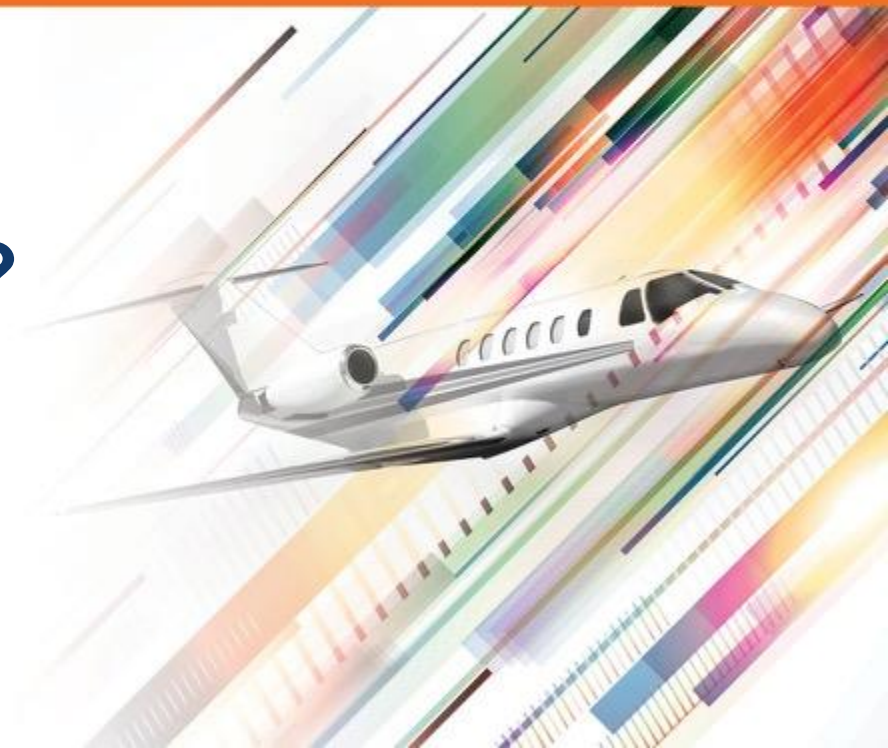


Where's My Flying Car?

Wednesday, October 11 3:30-4:30pm

Dorothy Cochrane
Curator, Aeronautics Department
National Air and Space Museum



Where's My Flying Car?



A.H. Russell's Machine, 1924

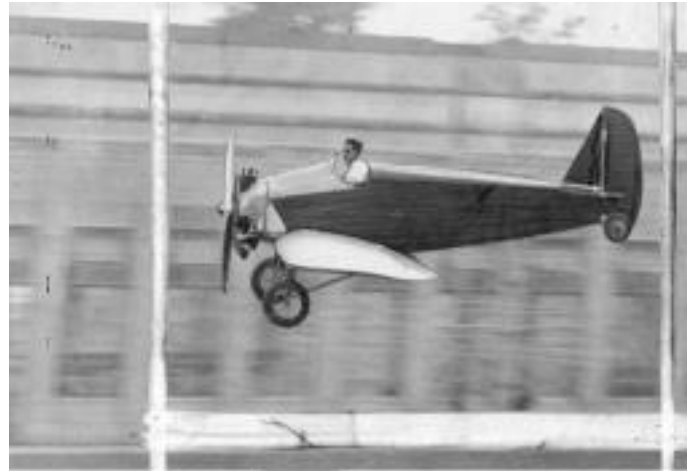


Ford Flivver

Henry Ford wanted his tiny 1927 airplane—the Flivver—to equal the success of his Model T car.

Charles Lindbergh declared it one of the worst airplanes he'd ever flown.

Flying cars grew out of the flivver idea. But does the quest to combine cars and aircraft have a practical future?



Stout Skycar Model II

Another Ford design



Waterman Aerobile, 1937-1957

This was the first aerocar to actually fly. In 1934, the director of the Bureau of Air Commerce posed a challenge: Design a “poor man’s” easy-to-fly airplane and sell it for \$700. Big manufacturers dismissed it, but Waldo Waterman’s Arrowplane (and Fred Weick’s W-1A) won.

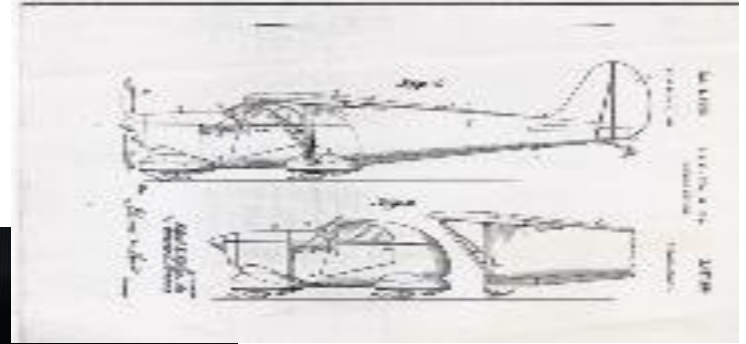


Convair Model 118, 1947



Fulton Airphibian

1st certificated flying car, 1950



Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum

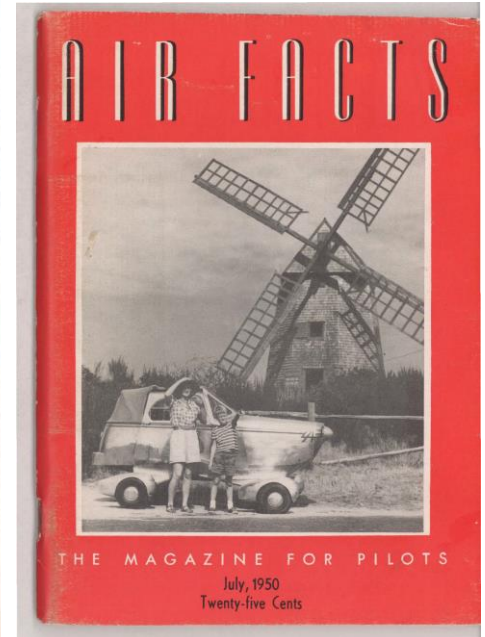
5-Minute Transition



FIVE MINUTE conversion from driving to flying one person, no tools! Just 4 basic steps:

1. Adjust flight unit's tail and wing-wheels to proper height (easy even on uneven ground), roll forward to engage "skyhooks" on road unit. Time 2½ minutes.
2. Remove propeller from side of fuselage, bolt onto nose using built-in wrench, lock spinner over wrench with key. Time 1 minute.
3. Engage lock-levers and crank-pins. (As this is done instruments, electrical connections and flight controls simultaneously engage and synchronize.) Requires two hands to open the levers! Time 1½ minutes.
4. Try cabin check-light and starter switch. If they will not work you have forgotten one of the above. The engine will not start if anything has been overlooked.

Total assembly time:
5 Mins.





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Robert Fulton

Engineering the businessman's dream



NASM/Fulton





Taylor Aerocar



Terrafugia Transisiton and TF-X TM

Conceived by MIT graduate students, the Transition is a prototype light sport flying car with foldable wings. The light-sport category will ease the pilot requirements for the driver, but will it/TF-X meet its stated cruise speed of 200 mph (322 km/h)? And fit in the proverbial garage or parking space?



Aeromobil



Aeromobil

*Mark my words: a combination airplane and motorcar is coming.
You may smile, but it will come. Henry Ford, 1940*

Will new technologies finally succeed in this decades old quest?

- **Design**
- **Power**
- **Control: Pilot or Autonomous**
- **Weight**
- **Price**
- **Airspace**

