

THE PLANE

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FLYING LABORATORY

What major civil and military aircraft makers thought impossible has been achieved by the ingenuity of the Solar Impulse team.



André Borschberg
Between the vision and its implementation, there are numerous challenges to be met. However, it is extremely important to transform ideas into reality.



A REVOLUTION
A MAJOR ADVANCE
IN MATERIALS,
LIGHTWEIGHT
TECHNOLOGY
AND ENERGY
EFFICIENCY
DEMONSTRATING
THE POTENTIAL
OF CLEAN
TECHNOLOGY



Wingspan
of a B-747 Jumbo Jet
72 m (236 ft)

Weight
of a family car
2,300 kg (5,070 lbs)

17,248 photovoltaic solar cells
only 135 microns thick,
as fine as a hair

Maximum power
4 engines of 13.5 kw
(17.4 hp)

Average power over 24 h
of a small motorcycle

Unpressurized and unheated cockpit
for a solo pilot

Maximum cruising altitude
of 8,500 m (28,000 ft)

Maximum indicated air speed
of 90 km/h (49 kts)