

USE CASE 02

Infrastructure Developer & A&E; Firm

How developers and engineering firms use AirIndex to qualify markets, de-risk capital allocation, and align project timelines with regulatory readiness.

Infrastructure developers and A&E; firms committing capital to vertiport projects need to know which markets are viable before engineering resources are deployed. AirIndex provides pre-feasibility market intelligence that separates markets ready for infrastructure investment from markets that look promising but aren't yet — and shows exactly what changes the calculation.

THE PROBLEM

A major A&E; firm is evaluating vertiport development opportunities across the Southeast. Three markets look promising based on population density and airport proximity. But one has no state AAM enabling legislation. Another has a favorable regulatory posture but no operator presence. The third has an operator announcement but the zoning framework doesn't permit vertiport construction. Without a structured readiness analysis, the firm can't determine which market justifies the next phase of engineering investment — and which will stall after site selection.

WHAT AIRINDEX PROVIDES

<p>21</p> <p>Markets scored</p> <p>Daily updates from live pipeline</p>	<p>40/100</p> <p>Avg national score</p> <p>EARLY tier — most markets not ready yet</p>	<p>95/100</p> <p>Top market score</p> <p>Dallas and LA lead the index</p>	<p>5,647</p> <p>Helicopter sites mapped</p> <p>FAA-registered with lat/long coordinates</p>
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How the engagement works

Step	Who	What happens	Output
1	AirIndex	Scores target markets across 7 factors. Identifies which markets have the legislative framework, vertiport zoning, operator presence, and regulatory posture to support infrastructure investment — and which are blocked on one or two factors that could change in the near term.	Market readiness matrix
2	AirIndex	Produces an Infrastructure Developer Briefing: VRT-first factor ordering, site conversion viability assessment (fewer than 20% of existing heliports can support eVTOL — most projects are greenfield), capital exposure by tier, favorable and stalled scenario projections.	Infrastructure Developer Briefing PDF
3	AirIndex	Heliport map shows all 5,647 FAA-registered sites with compliance status overlay (compliant / conditional / objectionable) — so site selection begins with verified data, not FAA 5010 records known to be inaccurate.	Site-level compliance data

4 Firm	Uses AirIndex market scores and gap analysis to rank markets by investment readiness. Allocates Phase 1 engineering to markets scoring 50+ with clear legislative momentum. Defers markets under 40 with no active legislation.	Capital allocation decision
5 AirIndex	Monitors score changes. When a stalled market passes enabling legislation or an operator announces a commitment, alerts the firm immediately.	Market watch alerts

THE GREENFIELD IMPERATIVE — WHY SITE CONVERSION MATH FAILS

Fewer than 20% of the 5,647 FAA-registered heliports in the US can physically support eVTOL operations. TLOF and FATO dimension requirements for eVTOL are larger than helicopter standards. Most existing sites are encroached. Most hospital helipads were built to a 40x40 TLOF — eVTOL requires 50x50 minimum. Most cannot expand. The vertiport development conversation is almost entirely a greenfield conversation. AirIndex VRT factor scoring reflects this — we score regulatory framework, physical footprint availability, and operator interest, not conversion potential of existing helipads.

HOW TO ENGAGE

Pre-Feasibility Market Snapshot	Complimentary one-page snapshot for a specific market. Score, tier, ordinance audit, and top three score-moving actions. Available before formal engagement.	Complimentary
Infrastructure Developer Briefing	Full market analysis: VRT factor breakdown, site conversion viability, capital exposure by development phase, favorable and stalled scenario projections, 12-month regulatory trajectory.	Discovery call—then scoped
Multi-Market Intelligence Package	Ongoing monitoring across a defined market set. Score alerts, regulatory pipeline updates, operator announcement tracking, corridor intelligence for multi-city infrastructure planning.	Annual subscription

Contact sales@airindex.io to request a complimentary pre-feasibility snapshot for any of the 21 tracked markets. Full methodology at airindex.io/methodology.