

# Algebris Climatech invests in Dronus, an innovative SME developing unmanned aerial systems

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**Algebris Climatech, the Article 9 venture capital fund of Algebris Investments focused on technologies for decarbonisation and climate resilience, announces an investment of €4 million in Dronus, an innovative SME specialising in the design and manufacture of automated drone systems for industrial use. Dronus is the first company to develop and patent NEST®, a technology that enables an autonomous aerial infrastructure for inspection and monitoring.**

The transaction forms part of a €15 million Series A round led by Algebris, with participation from Azimut, CDP Venture Capital, SIMEST and Eni Next. The funding will support the final stages of Dronus'1 technology development and its commercial expansion.

Founded in 2018 by Marco Ballerini, Dronus was established to develop integrated technology solutions for the remote acquisition, management and processing of data and images, helping to enhance safety and social well-being while fully respecting privacy. Headquartered in Trieste, with a multidisciplinary team of more than 30 people, the company has built a strong reputation for excellence in the design and production of unmanned aerial systems for industrial applications.

The transaction will help accelerate the development of NEST®, Dronus' patented aerial drone-in-a-box technology. The system is built around an aerial base station that acts as the platform's central control unit, enabling remote fleet management while automating drone take-off, landing and charging. Designed as a lightweight and easily replicable node, NEST® introduces a distributed aerial infrastructure model for applications across industrial sites, critical infrastructure, telecommunications networks, smart cities and civil protection.

"We are proud to lead this round in Dronus. The combination of patented technology, 24/7 operations including Beyond Visual Line of Sight missions, and the platform's continued evolution towards increasingly advanced AI capabilities can deliver tangible benefits for the monitoring of critical infrastructure - from energy to telecommunications - and enable new services in smart cities. Through this investment, we will support the team in accelerating both its technology roadmap and commercial growth," said **Stefano Ferrari, Partner at Algebris Climatech.**

"With this round, we aim to strengthen Dronus' positioning as an international company capable of supporting leading players in industry, security and smart cities, while consolidating our presence in Europe and other strategic markets," said **Marco Ballerini, CEO and Co-Founder of Dronus.** "Our ambition is to become a leading technology partner for automated inspections and advanced monitoring, helping improve safety and operational efficiency while fully respecting privacy."

Algebris Climatech has now deployed approximately 25% of the capital it has raised to date, which currently stands at around €70 million, with a target of reaching €100 million.

Algebris Climatech and Algebris Green Transition Fund, a private equity fund of Algebris Investments, are part of Algebris' alternative funds strategy in the climate and environmental transition sector.

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1 The transaction was also supported by the Green Transition Fund (GTF), managed by CDP Venture Capital SGR. The investment is funded by the European Union under the NextGenerationEU programme through resources from Italy's National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), under Mission 2 ("Green Revolution and Ecological Transition"), Component 2 ("Renewable Energy, Hydrogen, Grid and Sustainable Mobility"), Investment 5.4 ("Support for start-ups and venture capital active in the ecological transition").

## **Algebris Investments**

Algebris Investments is an independent global asset manager, founded by Davide Serra in 2006. Financials have been at the core of its expertise since inception, spanning across credit, equity and private debt. Over the years, the firm has widened its capabilities to global credit and global equity, including Italian equity. On the private investments side, the firm supports the transition to a greener and more sustainable economy, via its private equity solutions. As a specialist asset manager, Algebris' focused and thematic approach has been the cornerstone of its strategies. As of 30 November 2025, Algebris manages approximately €34 billion in assets, with a global team of over 175 professionals across offices in London, Milan, Rome, Zurich, Dublin, Boston, Singapore, and Tokyo.

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## **Dronus**

Founded in 2018 by aerospace engineer Marco Ballerini, Dronus S.p.A. is an innovative SME based in Trieste, specializing in the development and production of remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS) and automated solutions for security, inspection, and monitoring. The company has developed and patented, in Italy and in several target countries, NEST®, an aerial drone-in-a-box system: lightweight and versatile, it enables the installation of multiple nodes in different locations, creating a distributed aerial infrastructure and operational networks that can be managed remotely. The system automates both the operational sequence and the drone's recharging process between missions without the need for on-site human supervision, while continuously transmitting data to support monitoring and inspection activities. It can operate 24/7, even in BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Sight) scenarios, leveraging artificial intelligence and high-precision optical cameras. Dronus is at the forefront of regulatory compliance, being the only European company to hold two Design Verification Reports issued by EASA for BVLOS operations in urban environments. Its drone fleet has been developed to meet a variety of operational needs and includes models that have obtained ATEX certification and a certificate of harmlessness, enabling operations even in highly critical environments such as Oil & Gas sites and energy infrastructure. With a multidisciplinary team of over 30 people, Dronus has established significant partnerships with Eni and Qualcomm.

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The term "Algebris Climatech" refers jointly to the parallel funds Algebris Climatech Fund I and Algebris Climatech Italian Opportunity fund.

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