

# Flying saucer is a huge success

**LONDON, April 20 (AAP): Britain's flying saucer has been a "re-sounding success" in a secret maiden flight.**

Behind the closed doors of an old aircraft hangar in Bedfordshire, the radio-controlled saucer buzzed around for over half an hour at 30mph (48kph) then quietly sat down on its four "post legs."

Design-team leader, John West, who supervised the secret test two days ago, said "We are absolutely thrilled. It went perfectly."

"We kept it secret

"We kept it secret because we had to make sure everything was right before showing it off."

Today the saucer will make its "official" first flight before the watchful eyes of British civil aviation authorities and prospective buyers.

Mr West said that tests on the 30 ft dia-

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meter prototype, including several flights over the Bedfordshire countryside, would go on for several months.

An Australian air-cargo company has already shown an interest in the plans for the 750ft saucer, which the designers claim can carry a 400 ton payload.

The company, Air-Express, from Currie on King Island in Bass Strait, sent representatives to London late last year.

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The 800-ton "sky-ship," powered by ten Rolls Royce engines, would be the perfect answer to freighting problems in remote areas of Australia, according to Mr West.

