



SUPPLY CHAIN
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION
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Keller Rinaudo

Founder and CEO
Zipline

Keller Rinaudo is a robotics and healthcare innovator who is showing the world how drone technology can be used to save lives. He is the CEO and co-founder of [Zipline](#), which manages a system of custom robotic aircraft specifically designed to carry life-saving medical supplies to areas in need. Called a “visionary project” by the World Health Organization, “the new face of the aerospace industry” in *The New York Times*, and one of *Business Insider’s* “Startups to Watch” in 2017, Zipline uses cutting-edge technology to leapfrog the absence of preexisting infrastructure all over the globe and deliver medical necessities to healthcare professionals and their patients in the most remote parts of the world. The company currently operates in parts of Africa as well as within three US states. A former TED main stage speaker, Rinaudo was named one of 2017’s “Most Creative People in Business” by *Fast Company* and made *Forbes’* prestigious 2017 “30 Under 30” list in the Consumer Technology category. He is exclusively represented by Leading Authorities speakers bureau and discusses how to test solutions quickly to effectively maximize output, how to discover simple solutions to complex problems, emerging as a leader in an industry dominated by monopolies, and what technology and robotics mean for the future of business and government.

The idea for Zipline was born on a trip to Tanzania, when Rinaudo met with a researcher who had compiled a database of doctors across the country who required immediate medical assistance for patients. This assistance typically came in the form of special medicine, blood donations, and other emergency treatments. Rinaudo was astounded by the number of requests and the lack of availability for those supplies to be delivered as needed. Inspired to find a solution, he gradually built a coalition around his vision, raised capital, recruited talent, created innovative delivery vehicles, forged new partnerships with government agencies, and implemented these solutions in extremely remote areas.

Zipline’s groundbreaking partnership with the country of Rwanda has been the organization’s largest success story to date and will ultimately put all 11 million of the country’s citizens within a 15-30-minute delivery of blood and any essential medical product. Zipline drones currently make 50 to 150 deliveries per day of red blood cells, plasma or platelets to the 21 transfusion facilities in the western half of Rwanda. Zipline is also working with the Global Alliance for Vaccines, UPS, USAID, and several other countries in East Africa. In 2017, *Fast Company* named drones being used for good as one of the “12 tech trends that will shape our lives” this year, and cited Zipline’s work as proof.