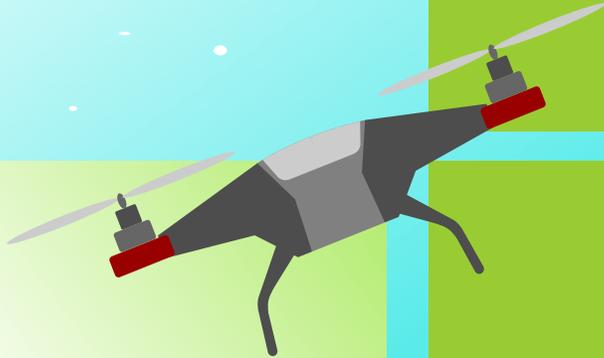




FAA
Aviation Safety



FY 2020

AUS

QUARTERLY
REPORT

Q2



Introduction

This document provides an overview of the UAS Integration Office's high-level accomplishments in FY 2020, Quarter 2 (January – March, 2020). When available, links to further information are provided.

Announcements & Regulations

Feb. 3, 2020 **UAS Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) #1**

On February 3, the FAA awarded two contracts under the UAS BAA Call #001 announcement. The following Qualified Commercial Entities received the initial one-year awards: Utopia Compression Corporation (UCC) and Vigilant Aerospace Systems Incorporated (VASI). UCC will be demonstrating an Electro-Optical Ranging System for detect and avoid (DAA) at the New Mexico State University UAS Test Site. VASI will be demonstrating their DAA and Air Traffic Situational Awareness System that will support UAS beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) Flight Operations at the University of Alaska Fairbanks UAS Test Site. Additional awards will be made this quarter, on a rolling basis, until a total of seven awards are executed.

Feb. 21, 2020 **New Members Join the Drone Advisory Committee (DAC)**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has appointed two new members to the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Drone Advisory Committee (DAC).

The new members are Christian Ramsey, President of uAvionix Corp., headquartered in Bigfork, MT, and Lee Moak, founder and Chief Executive Officer of The Moak Group in Washington, D.C. They were appointed on February 5, 2020.

<https://www.faa.gov/news/updates/?newsId=95116>

Speeches, Meetings, & Events

Jan. 6 - 10, 2020 **FAA at CES (formerly Consumer Electronics Show)**

FAA and Department of Transportation (DOT) officials attended CES in Las Vegas, NV. At the FAA UAS Integration booth, staff answered questions about drone safety, regulations, and operations. DOT and ASH also had booths. Secretary Chao gave a keynote, mentioning the remote ID notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), and participated in an urban air mobility (UAM) roundtable with industry. Jay Merkle, FAA's UAS Integration Office lead, spoke on the "Drones Making an Impact Globally" panel and attended several industry meetings.

Merkle's panel can be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TKzvzLSUlu4>.

Jan. 13, 2020 **Merkle at Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting**

January 13, Jay Merkle participated in the "Laying a Foundation for Advanced Transportation Technology" panel at the Transportation Research Board's annual meeting.

Jan. 14, 2020 **Recreational Flyers**

The Recreational Flyers/Section 44809 team held a meeting of the 13 selected Knowledge Test Administration Cohort participants to gain their input on test administration, pursuant to Congress's direction. Test name, design, administration, data retention, standards and other logistics were discussed.

Jan. 28, 2020 **Helicopter Association International (HAI) Heli Expo**

On January 28, Jay Merkle presented at the UAM Forum panel at HAI HELI EXPO 2020, which took place at the Anaheim Convention Center.

Speeches, Meetings, & Events, cont.

Jan. 30, 2020

FAA International UAS Integration Research Roundtable Teleconference #2.

FAA hosted the second FAA International UAS Integration Research Roundtable teleconference with participation from the USA (FAA and the Alliance for System Safety of UAS through Research Excellence (ASSURE)), Canada (Transport Canada Civil Aviation), Switzerland (Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA)), Singapore (Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS)), the Republic of Korea (Ministry Of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport – Office of Civil Aviation), and the United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority). The meeting kicked off with a review of action items and updates, followed by a briefing on the UAS Modeler Survey. Following the briefing, an update was provided on FAA UAS Traffic Management (UTM) and the UTM Pilot Program (UPP). Nathaniel Apter of FOCA then presented on the Swiss FOCA Remote ID demonstration overview and report. Finally, Jamie Bloomfield of CAAS briefed on Singapore's UAS wake research overview and collaboration efforts.

Jan. 29 – 30, 2020

UAS Safety Team (UAST) Quarterly Meeting

The quarterly UAST meeting took place in Anaheim, CA. The FAA co-chair, Jay Merkle, provided an update on FAA initiatives and reviewed the 2019 Drone Safety Awareness Week, while the Industry co-chair presented the UAST strategic direction for 2020. Various working groups updated the UAST on developmental efforts, including key performance indicators for UAS accident prevention, integrating UAS safety data into NASA's Aviation Safety Reporting Program, and community outreach via social media and the UAST website.

Feb. 03 – 05, 2020

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems Panel (RPASP) Meeting with Surveillance Panel Airborne Collision Subgroup (ACSG):

FAA met with fellow members of RPASP Work Group 3 and ACSG members to discuss comments and future actions regarding the completion of technical standards for Detect-and-Avoid (DAA) in ICAO Annex 10, Volume 4, Part 2. The meeting also included an information briefing comparing existing standards for airborne collision avoidance systems with the developing DAA-related standards and a briefing on guidance. The RPASP Air Traffic Management (ATM) and Operations Work Groups and the ATM Operations Panel will use this briefing to better understand key DAA concepts and to improve joint development of ATM and operational guidance material for DAA.

Feb. 05 – 07, 2020

Africa Drone Forum (ADF)

FAA attended the ADF in Kigali, Rwanda, and participated in the "Airspace Management for Unmanned Services" panel with a presentation prepared by FAA's UAS Integration Office. Rwandan President Paul Kagame opened the forum, which featured over 800 attendees from 50 countries, including several Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and Air Navigation Service Provider (ANSP) Directors General, ICAO Regional Directors, and the Secretary General of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC). Major topics included the need to integrate UTM into current ATM for manned aircraft and the need for harmonized UAS regulations, given the near-term desire for cross-border deployment of drones. African CAAs appear to be aligning more with FAA's position of integrating, instead of segregating, UAS into national airspace.

Feb. 03 – 06, 2020

Safety Risk Management Panel (SRMP) for UAS "On Airport Operations"

The UAS Integration Office supported the Safety Risk Management Panel (SRMP) for UAS "On Airport Operations." The SRMP included voting from all the FAA lines of business as well as DOD subject matter experts from across the FAA as well as industry partners and representatives from various trade associations were represented to provide their expertise and viewpoints. The goal of the panel was to complete a thorough safety analysis of UAS operating in movement and non-movement areas at or below 400' AGL on the property of controlled airports to perform activities such as aircraft inspections, airport inspections, runway inspections, and recreational activities.

Feb. 27, 2020

Drone Advisory Committee (DAC) Meeting

A DAC meeting was held in Washington, DC on Feb. 27. During the meeting, FAA presented its responses to the three DAC recommendations delivered during the October 17, 2019. In addition, the DAC presented the FAA with their recommendations on three taskings from the October 17, 2019 meeting (facility maps, beyond visual line-of-sight (BVLOS) challenges, and UAS Traffic Management). Lastly, the FAA gave the DAC two new taskings: the continuation of DAC Tasking #7 (UAS Traffic Management) and Aviation Safety Culture for Drone Operators.

Speeches, Meetings, & Events, cont.

Feb. 17 – 20, 2020

FAA UAS Technical Workshop for African Region

FAA's UAS Integration Office led a crosscutting FAA delegation to conduct a UAS Integration Technical Workshop for the African region, hosted by the Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority (RCAA) in Kigali, Rwanda. Sixty attendees from 23 countries and regional organizations participated, including Charis Unmanned Aerial Solutions, the Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA), New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Eastern and Southern Africa (ESAF) office. The workshop included FAA presentations on UAS Rulemaking, Safety Risk Management, UAS Traffic Management (UTM), Integration Pilot Program (IPP), Partnership for Safety Program (PSP), UTM Pilot Program (UPP), UAS Test Sites, Aircraft Registration, Airspace Access, Low Altitude Authorization Notification Capability (LAANC), UAS Security, Type Certification, Public Engagement, UAS Research, and International Engagement. The Rwanda CAA also provided a summary of the recently concluded Africa Drone Forum (ADF) and briefed their UAS integration efforts.

As part of the workshop, FAA also held a Remote Identification (ID) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) meeting. FAA's Brandon Roberts led the meeting and answered questions from the participants. This is part of our international outreach strategy to share UAS-related rulemaking updates with key global partners with the end goal of increased harmonization.

Feb. 26 – 27, 2020

Joint Authorities for Rulemaking on Unmanned Systems (JARUS) Airworthiness Meetings:

FAA participated in WebEx meetings with JARUS to define airworthiness work on objective requirements for highly complex systems, including artificial intelligence. FAA's Aircraft Certification Service will provide comments on the work plan and determine the most appropriate subject matter expert to help execute this work.

Feb. 20, 25, & 27, 2020

Remote Identification Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) Virtual Meetings

FAA hosted and supported virtual meetings with the Middle East, Western Hemisphere and Africa regions, respectively, on the current NPRM for remote identification. The meetings, which generated substantial discussion, are part of FAA's international outreach strategy to align with key global partners.

March 05, 2020

Focus Group Meeting on Future Work for JARUS

On March 5, FAA discussed the proposed future program management structure and work program of JARUS with focus group members from the civil aviation representatives from Switzerland, Spain, New Zealand, Romania, Bulgaria, and Qatar, and JARUS vice chairs from China and Canada. FAA leads the subgroup on workflow and participates in the future work subgroup. The focus group reviewed the final draft proposals for 1) the mission and vision of JARUS, and 2) the new JARUS program management structure and related work tasks. Each focus subgroup lead will adjudicate final comments and send them to the JARUS leadership for final review. The JARUS Secretariat will send these proposals to all JARUS members in advance of the April Plenary Session to support a plenary discussion and approval. FAA will coordinate the final proposals with JARUS advisors and their management.

Mar. 24, 2020

Research, Engineering, Development Advisory Committee (REDAC) National Airspace System Operations (NAS Ops) Spring 2020 Subcommittee Meeting

On March 24, FAA presented a deep dive on ASSURE Center of Excellence Research on UAS Safety Assessment and Integration into the national airspace system (NAS) to the NAS Ops subcommittee comprised of members of government, industry, and academia.

Speeches, Meetings, & Events, cont.

Mar. 25, 2020

ASSURE Risk-Based Standards Research Kick-off Meeting

On March 25, a kick-off meeting on recently funded ASSURE research was held. The research will propose risk-based standards for waiver review to validate small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) industry standards, support standard development, and provide waiver strategies for sUAS that are necessary for their safe integration in the NAS. Participants included Kansas State University (ASSURE Lead), University of Alaska-Fairbanks (ASSURE Performer), University of North Dakota (ASSURE Performer), Mississippi State University (ASSURE Management), and FAA.

March 25, 2020

FAA International UAS Integration Research Roundtable Teleconference #3:

The UAS Integration Office hosted the third FAA International UAS Integration Research Roundtable teleconference with participation from the USA (FAA and ASSURE), Canada (TCCA), Switzerland (FOCA), Singapore (CAAS), the Republic of Korea (MOLIT – Office of Civil Aviation), the United Kingdom (CAA), Rwanda (CAA), and Israel (CAA). The meeting began with a review of action items and updates. FAA's Aviation Safety then briefed on UAS/UAM Automation Research and its NextGen office followed with an update on UAS Traffic Management (UTM) Concept of Operations v2.0. Lastly, Nathaniel Apter of FOCA presented on Swiss UAS Research.

No Drone Zone Tweets

- Superbowl
- Daytona 500
- Mardi Gras
- Richmond, VA (January 20, 2020)

Other Tweets/Facebook/Instagram

- Buzzy the Drone...Tips for New Drone Owners
- FAA is Investigating Colorado & Nebraska Drone Sightings
- CES (formerly Consumer Electronics Show) Updates
- Facebook & Twitter Now Have Dedicated FAA UAS
- DroneZone Space
- Things to Know Before You Fly a Drone
- Remote ID NPRM: Comments Due March 2nd
- Traveling with a Drone
- Watch FAA's Remote ID Presentation
- UPP Report
- Steve Dickson at the UK AV Club
- FAA UAS Symposium
- DAC Meeting, 2/27
- Global Air Drone Academy Wins African Drone Business Challenge
- We Love Drone Safety
- Register Your Drone
- FAA Hosts UAS Workshop in Rwanda
- New DAC Members Appointed
- Burke HS in Omaha is Inspiring a New Generation of Aviators
- Learn More About FAA's Drone Pilot Program
- FAA at Piedmont, VA Community College 2020 National Public Safety UAS Conference
- Drones in Public Safety (Various)
- Remote ID for Low-Altitude Manned Aircraft

Live Streaming Events

- CES Panel: Global Impact of Drones
- CES Panel: Drone Pilots & Recreational Flyers
- Drone Advisory Committee Meeting