

AUS

Quarterly Report



FAA
Aviation Safety

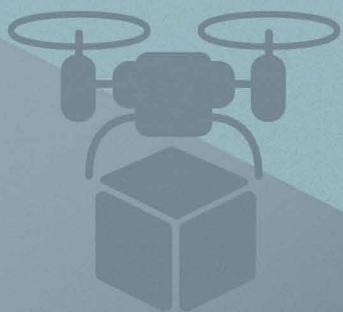


FY 2021

Q4

JULY — SEPTEMBER

This document provides a high-level overview of the Federal Aviation Administration's Unmanned Aircraft Systems-related accomplishments in FY 2021, Quarter 4 (July – September 2021). When available, links to additional information are provided.



Monday, September 27, 2021

FAA Awards \$2.8 Million in Drone Research Grants to Five Universities

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) today announced \$2.8 million in drone research, education and training grants to five universities. Research will focus on three areas: Advanced material, right-of-way rules, and flight data recorder requirements.

The universities receiving grants are Mississippi State University, Wichita State University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the University of Kansas and the University of North Dakota.

<https://www.faa.gov/newsroom/faa-awards-28-million-drone-research-grants-five-universities>



Speeches, Meetings, & Events

August 3-5, 2021

North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Test Observation and FAA Site Visit

From August 3-5, members of the FAA Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Integration Office conducted a site visit to the NCDOT BEYOND Lead Participant to participate in their summer technical workshop. Activities included meetings with representatives from the NCDOT, UPS Flight Forward, Flytrex, Causey, and Zipline as well as site visits to witness drone simulations. The agenda included presentations by FAA about a newly released G-1 issue paper and another about the latest developments in UTM, along with presentations and hands-on interactive sessions with the NCDOT partners by multiple FAA representatives discussing environmental and noise compliance issues.

August 4, 2021

New Zealand's Airspace Integration Trial Program (AITP) – FAA Information Exchange Meeting

On August 4, members of the FAA UAS Integration Office's research division met with representatives from New Zealand's AITP. The AITP is a mechanism for the New Zealand government to partner with domestic and international industry partners to help support the integration of advanced UAS operations into the country's national airspace system. Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand and Airways New Zealand have an interest in exploring further opportunities to collaborate with the FAA on UAS traffic management (UTM) and advanced air mobility (AAM).

August 6, 2021

Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC) – Energy Sector Government Coordinating Council (EGCC) Wildfire Working Group

On August 6, the Executive Director of FAA UAS Integration Office, Jay Merkle, spoke at the ESCC-EGCC Wildfire Working Group meeting on beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) operations and FAA efforts to enable drone firefighting for wildfires.

August 11-12, 2021

BVLOS Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC)

The BVLOS ARC held plenary meetings on August 11 and 12. Executive Director of FAA UAS Integration Office, Jay Merkle, serves as the FAA co-chair.

August 13, 2021

FAA Leadership Meeting with International BVLOS ARC Observers

On August 13, the Executive Director of FAA UAS Integration Office and other FAA leadership met with three of the seven international observers for an informal discussion on the ongoing BVLOS ARC. These bi-weekly meetings allow the observers to provide feedback and include information that can be shared to assist rulemaking efforts in all nations, and they serve as a unique venue for international discussion.

Speeches, Meetings, & Events

August 17, 2021

Federal Law Enforcement Training Center

On August 17, members of the safety and integration arm of the FAA UAS Integration Office met with representatives of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to assist them with establishing a UAS training class for future federal law enforcement officers/agents.

August 31, 2021

Canadian Civil Aviation Authority

On August 31, members of the safety and integration arm of the FAA UAS Integration Office met with representatives of the Canadian Civil Aviation Authority to discuss working together on public safety issues.

September 6-9, 2021

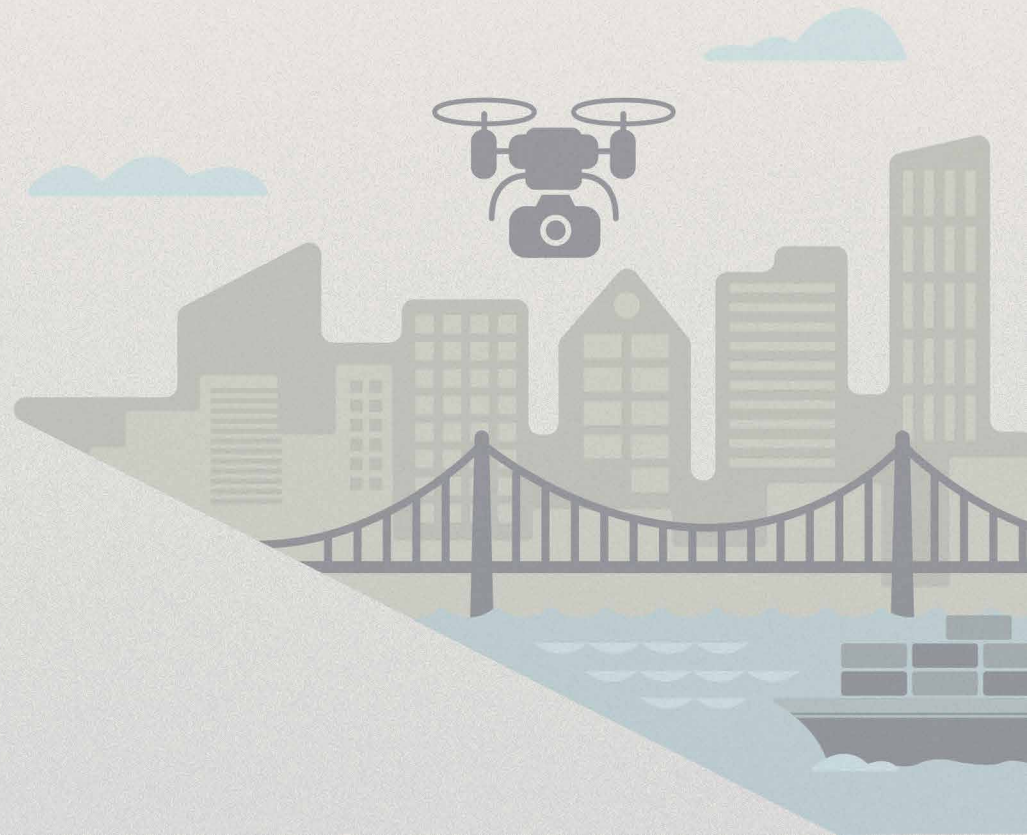
Norway Arctic Drone Event

A pre-recorded video by Executive Director of FAA UAS Integration Office, Jay Merkle, was shared during the September 6-9 Arctic Drone Event – an annual event hosted by UAS Norway in this year's location of Svalbard. The purpose of this year's event was to highlight the role of UAS used for logistics in a safe and sustainable ways. AUS-r's pre-recorded video provided the audience, comprised of Norwegian government officials and industry, with a high-level overview of UAS integration efforts conducted in the U.S, with a specific focus on UAS logistics.

September 13, 2021

International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference

On September 13, the safety and integration arm of the FAA UAS Integration Office was part of a virtual panel, "How to Start Your Public Safety Drone Program," at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference. The conference took place in New Orleans, LA, and the panel was entitled "How to Start Your Public Safety Drone Program."



September 13-19, 2021

3rd Annual National Drone Safety Awareness Week (DSAW)

For this year's DSAW, a team from the FAA UAS Integration Office coordinated with internal and external partners for a weeklong outreach and education campaign with a focus on recreational flyers. Themes explored through the week include taking TRUST, registration, flying communities, and new rules. Engagement opportunities included a social media campaign, raising awareness through a photo showcase, and 30 events around the country plus on-demand videos, an Instagram Live chat that included FAA administrator Steve Dickson, and a panel with Drone Racing League and the U.S. Air Force moderated by the UAS Integration Office. A new addition to this year's campaign was a series of evening activities called "Droning On: After Dark", which included panels with the first person view and modeling communities, and a virtual drone race.

September 14-15, 2021

FAA UAS Symposium – Episode IV

On September 14-15, the second half of sixth annual FAA UAS Symposium took place virtually. Episode IV featured 26 sessions and 85 speakers, including FAA Deputy Administrator Mims and the FAA's Air Traffic Organization Chief Operating Officer, Teri Bristol. Attendees from the U.S. and 60 other countries heard discussions on safety culture, community engagement, fostering diversity in the aviation industry, UTM, the BEYOND program, environmental issues, public safety operations, updates from the BVLOS ARC, and more.

September 22-23, 2021

8th Annual Global Leadership Meeting (AGLM8)

AGLM8 occurred from 22-23 September, with guest speakers including FAA Administrator Steve Dickson and the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Secretary General, among others. On 23 September, the Executive Director of the FAA UAS Integration Office, Jay Merkle, participated in the "International Aviation Growth and Necessary Change" panel, which included senior members from the FAA's Commercial Space Transportation, the General Aviation Manufacturers' Association, the SpaceX Corporation, and Airlines for America. Merkle identified 3 key UAS-related global trends: 1) that there are many other venues besides ICAO, such as the Joint Authorities for Rule-Making on Unmanned Systems, where global collaborative work on UAS occurs; 2) the need to focus on performance-based standards and their ability to allow regulations to catch up with innovation; and 3) that standards must be internationally-recognized since a patchwork will be difficult and introduce potential safety risk. Merkle also emphasized how drones are democratizing aviation, given their lower barriers to entry, and that the U.S. will miss out on economic and societal benefits if we don't successfully achieve BVLOS rules.

Speeches, Meetings, & Events

September 24, 2021

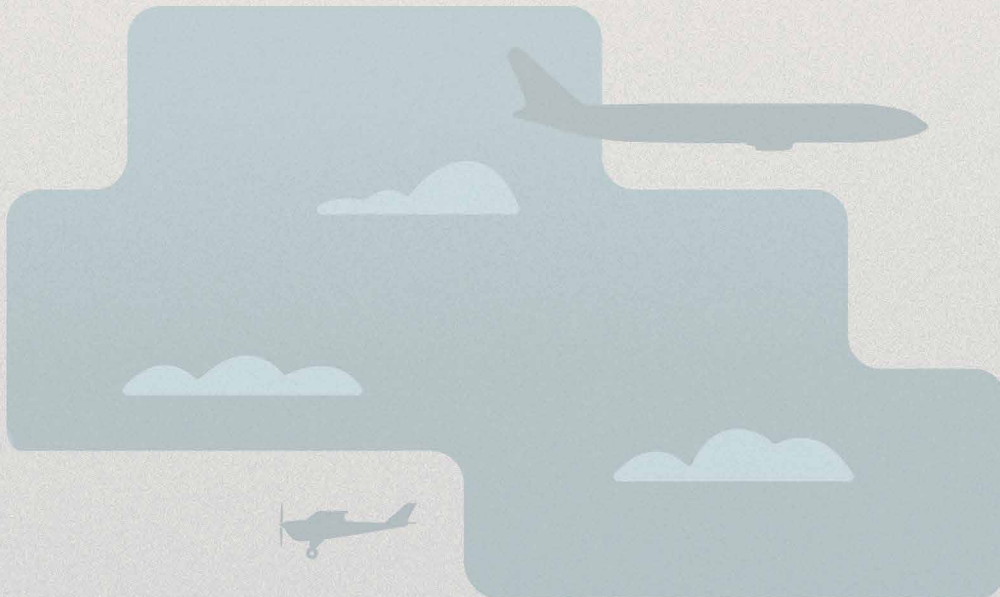
FAA—Africa Drone Forum (ADF) and Oversight International Meeting

On 24 September, the international arm of the FAA UAS Integration Office arranged a meeting to discuss the importance of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in developing UAS regulatory framework and related policy. The ADF produces annual reports on UAS regulatory developments in Africa and wanted to learn more about how the FAA initiates and executes PPPs. ADF and Oversight International plan on taking back lessons learned to the African continent and their stakeholders. FAA UAS Integration Office members described the B4UFLY application, the Drone Advisory Committee, the UAS Integration Pilot Program, BEYOND, and the Partnership for Safety Plan program.

September 29-30, 2021

3rd Annual FAA International UAS/AAM Integration Research Roundtable

On September 29-30, the research division of the FAA UAS Integration Office hosted the 3rd Annual FAA International UAS Integration Research Roundtable. This year's meeting focused on UAS/AAM integration progress, priorities, and challenges from each of the partner countries to inform opportunities for research, data sharing, and further collaboration. Participants included Transport Canada Civil Aviation, Brazil Institute of Airspace Control, Office of Civil Aviation - Republic of Korea, Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority, Israel Civil Aviation Authority, United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority, New Zealand Civil Aviation Authority, Federal Office for Civil Aviation - Switzerland, Australia Civil Aviation Authority, Singapore Civil Aviation Authority, and the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau.



Select Social Media Notices

Hey, Recreational Flyers! You must pass The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) before you fly! The FAA has approved multiple organizations to administer the free online test. Learn more and access the test at <http://bit.ly/3w5vZll>. #Drones #TRUST #TipTuesday

<https://www.facebook.com/103683877826050/photos/a.111667783694326/350231036504665/?type=3>

Flying is fun! @SecretaryPete spent time with @gadroneacademy students learning how to fly safe. Don't forget to take The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) before you fly. Learn more and access the test at <https://t.co/QHPHcxm6j9>. #Drones #TRUST

<https://twitter.com/FAADroneZone/status/1420846211775582211>

Happy #WomensEqualityDay! The FAA-led Drone Advisory Committee proposed steps to encourage diversity in aviation by removing gendered language. Read more about why this is important for both women's equality and aviation safety: <https://t.co/LoJ5OdUMNg>.

<https://twitter.com/FAANews/status/1430892925844553742>

Tonight's Droning On: After Dark event will feature First Person View Racers @makoreactra, @roo_fpv, and @Headsupfpv to discuss the world of drone racing. Join the live event tonight at 9 PM ET. Learn more at <https://t.co/5CR2ByzrTq>. #DroneWeek

<https://twitter.com/FAANews/status/1437921621868695557>

Join the FAA Administrator Steve Dickson and drone experts for an Instagram live #DroneWeek event hosted by the FAA Drone Guy. We'll discuss TRUST, how to register and mark your drone, how to get involved, and how drones are inspiring young people. Join us TODAY at 1 PM ET.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CT2lqeOt2Zg>