



Advanced Aviation Advisory Committee

October 20, 2022 AAAC Meeting

Detailed Minutes

Introduction

An Advanced Aviation Advisory Committee (AAAC) meeting was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Arlington, VA on October 20, 2022, from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM EST. This meeting was held in a hybrid format and livestreamed across FAA social media for the general public. The full meeting is archived on the FAA's YouTube channel and is broken up into two sessions. Both sessions can be found here:

First session: <https://youtu.be/fyw2LtaSE5U>

Second session: https://youtu.be/_uKXv_G7zs0

Designated Federal Officer Opening Remarks

Mr. Jay Merkle began the morning session of the meeting by welcoming the audience and reading the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) opening statement. After reading the opening statement, Mr. Merkle then discussed the agenda for the meeting. Mr. Merkle proceeded to ask for a motion for approval of the June 30, 2022 meeting minutes. There were no objections and the motion passed.

Mr. Merkle then turned the meeting over to Mr. Vinn White from the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) for his remarks.

View the DFO's remarks (link is timestamped for DFO Opening Remarks):

<https://youtu.be/fyw2LtaSE5U?t=129>

OST Remarks

Mr. White thanked the Committee and discussed the new Advanced Air Mobility Coordination and Leadership Act, which was signed into law by President Biden earlier in the week. He then explained the advantages of this new legislation before turning the meeting back over to Mr. Merkle.

Mr. Merkle turned the meeting over the AAAC Chair, Captain Houston Mills, for his remarks.

View the remarks from OST (link is timestamped for OST Remarks):

<https://youtu.be/fyw2LtaSE5U?t=293>



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AAAC Chair Opening Remarks

Captain Mills began his remarks by welcoming all attendees and viewers to the meeting. He expressed his excitement for the Committee to have the support of the current administration. Capt. Mills then asked that the 11 new Committee members give a short introduction. Capt. Mills proceeded to welcome the new members to the Committee and thanked four departing members for their contributions to the AAAC.

Capt Mills commented that all of the members continued thought leadership will further enable the Committee to deliver consensus-based recommendations to the FAA and Department of Transportation (DOT), before sharing recent data and calculated projections demonstrating the growth of the small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS) community, and the importance of the Committee's work. He proceeded to thank Mr. Terry McVenes and Mr. Brandon Suarez (RTCA) for their presence, before turning the meeting back over to Mr. Merkle.

Mr. Merkle turned the meeting over to the Deputy Administrator, Mr. Brad Mims for his remarks.

View the AAAC Chair's remarks: (link is timestamped for AAAC Chair Opening Remarks):
<https://youtu.be/fyw2LtaSE5U?t=440>

Deputy Administrator Opening Remarks

Mr. Mims began by congratulating the 11 new members on their appointment to the Committee and thanked the four departing members for their service. Mr. Mims proceeded to speak from experience, stating how he has witnessed the industry move through deregulation, making flying more accessible to more people, and stated that today's innovations could make aviation even more accessible and beneficial. He acknowledged that the FAA is committed to enabling innovation, so long as the agency can ensure safety.

Mr. Mims then proceeded to make several announcements. He provided an update on the FAA's review of the Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) Aviation Rule Making Committee (ARC) recommendations and written comments received, the release of an Advisory Circular that will recognize non-profit Community Based Organizations (CBOs) for recreational drone flyers, the recently passed Senate Bill 516 – the Advanced Air Mobility Coordination and Leadership Act, and the publishing of the NPRM for Powered Lift Special Federal Air Regulation.

Mr. Mims then thanked the Committee for their time before turning the meeting over to Mr. Merkle.



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View the Deputy Administrator's remarks: (link is timestamped for Deputy Administrator Opening Remarks):

<https://youtu.be/fyw2LtaSE5U?t=870>

FAA Remote Identification Update

Presenter:

Dan Elgas, Deputy Director, Policy and Innovation Division, Aircraft Certification Service

Mr. Daniel Elgas began the presentation by providing an update on Remote Identification (RID) Means of Compliance (MOC) and discussing the Notification of Enforcement Discretion Policy for Production Requirements, published to the Federal Register on September 8, 2022. Mr. Elgas highlighted that the notification of enforcement policy stipulates the agency will exercise discretion in determining how to handle noncompliance until December 16, 2022. Lastly, Mr. Elgas provided an update on the current status of accepted declarations of compliance for Remote ID uncrewed aircrafts.

There was a brief discussion period following the presentation.

View the presentation and discussion (link is timestamped for FAA Remote Identification Update) <https://youtu.be/fyw2LtaSE5U?t=1629>

Task Group #13: Strategic Framework for Advanced Air Mobility Near-Term Operations Final Recommendations

Presenter:

David Silver, Vice President of Civil Aviation, Aerospace Industries Association
Seleta Reynolds, Chief Innovation Officer, Los Angeles Metro

In continuation of the interim recommendations presentation given at the June 23, 2022 AAAC meeting, Mr. David Silver and Ms. Seleta Reynolds began the presentation by providing an overview of the Task Group membership and detailing the tasking provided to the group at the February 23, 2022 AAAC Meeting. The Task Group worked together to formulate their final recommendations in sub-groups: Aircraft, Airspace, Operations, Infrastructure, and Community.

There was a discussion period following the presentation.



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The AAAC eBook provides the official report of Task Group #13: Strategic Framework for Advanced Air Mobility Near-Term Operations Final Recommendations.

View this presentation and discussion (link is timestamped for Task Group #13: Strategic Framework for Advanced Air Mobility Near-Term Operations Final Recommendations):
<https://youtu.be/fyw2LtaSE5U?t=2199>

RTCA Digital Flight Rules Briefing

Presenters:

Terry McVenes, President and Chief Executive Officer, RTCA
Brandon Suarez, Co-Chair, RTCA Special Committee SC-228

Mr. Terry McVenes and Mr. Brandon Suarez prefaced their presentation, stating that almost all of the work being presented was repackaged from NASA report(s). Mr. McVenes and Mr. Suarez then provided a brief overview on vehicle capability versus vehicle integration, common need for access to airspace, and the increasing commoditization of airspace coupled with increasing number of users. They continued to discuss significant events in industry that allowed the topic of digital flight (DF) rules to gain momentum, before explaining the need for DF rules, the benefits of DF rules, and what the Committee can do to support the topic.

There was a brief discussion following the presentation.

View the presentation and discussion (link is timestamped for RTCA Digital Flight Rules Briefing presentation):
<https://youtu.be/fyw2LtaSE5U?t=5152>

FAA Collegiate Training Initiative (CTI) Update

Presenter:

Diana Robinson, Project Manager, UAS Integration Office

Ms. Diana Robinson began the afternoon session of the meeting with an update on the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Collegiate Training Initiative (CTI) program. Ms. Robinson began by detailing the purpose of the program and elaborating on the importance of providing drone programs at the college and university levels. She then detailed the program's curriculum requirements, application processes, and benefits. Ms. Robinson shared the number of Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) program schools involved, before providing an overview of the list of



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grant recipients from fiscal year 2022. Lastly, Ms. Robinson discussed outreach goals for the remainder of the year and promoted attendance at upcoming events.

Following the presentation, there was a discussion period.

View the presentation and discussion (link is timestamped for FAA Collegiate Training Initiative Update): https://youtu.be/_uKXv_G7zs0?t=1

FAA Drone Safety Team Update

Presenter:

Abby Smith, Deputy Executive Director, UAS Integration Office

Pete Dumont, Chief Executive Officer, Rare Air Solutions

Mr. Abby Smith and Mr. Pete Dumont began their presentation by providing an overview of the Drone Safety Team (DST) history, mission, membership, and leadership. Mr. Smith and Mr. Dumont proceeded to discuss the value of collaboration with different facets of the drone community, and the DST working groups, which include: data analysis, safety assurance, safety mitigation, and strategic communication. They concluded the presentation by sharing information regarding The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) and the Aviation Safety Report System (ASRS).

Following the presentation, there was a discussion period.

View the presentation and discussion: (link is timestamped for FAA Drone Safety Team Update): https://youtu.be/_uKXv_G7zs0?t=1924

New AAAC Taskings

Mr. Merkle presented the Committee with two new taskings. AAAC Tasking #14 asks the Committee to examine the Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) recommendations and identify opportunities where industry can assist and accelerate implementation of BVLOS regulatory action. AAAC Tasking #15 asks the Committee to make recommendations on lessons learned and best practices related to drone community engagement methods.

The AAAC Chair, Mr. Mills accepted the new taskings. The recommendations report(s) is scheduled to be presented at the next AAAC meeting in March 2023.



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View the presentation and discussion: (link is timestamped for New AAAC Taskings):
https://youtu.be/uKXv_G7zs0?t=3960

New Business/Agenda Topics

Mr. Mills opened the floor to Committee members to raise any new business or agenda items.

Topics for the FAA to consider for future taskings included:

- Mr. Vic Moss raised the topic that Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) were originally put into place for traditional manned aircraft, however, as drones came about, they then received those same TFRs. Mr. Moss questioned the possibility of the AAAC or FAA working with other government organizations to allow for drones to receive less restrictions with TFRs.
- Mr. Brad Hayden suggested a future tasking to provide recommendations on how the FAA can provide a pathway for traditional aerospace personnel into the UAS/AAM ecosystem.
- With Task Group #13 in mind, Ms. Yolanka Wulff asked if there was a need for another tasking more specifically around community engagement and community integration beyond any fine tuning that comes out of Task Group #13. Ms. Wulff asked to rework the title of the new Task Group #15 tasking to reflect that it is not restricted specifically to small drones.
- Mr. Jaz Banga asked what the FAA or industry can provide to incentivize people to get certified and take testing.
- At the previous meeting, Mr. Paul Hsu mentioned that the Air Force asked him to develop and test fly %100 synthetic jet fuel. He revealed that they have since tested the synthetic jet fuel, approximately 2 months prior, and the test flight went well.

View the discussion (New Business/Agenda Topics):
<https://youtu.be/ss7RLW0ZP4s?t=3978>

Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Mr. Merkle again welcomed the 11 new members to the Committee and thanked the four departing members on their contributions. He thanked all of the presenters, as well as those who help make the AAAC possible, before turning the meeting over to Capt. Mills, who thanked the AAAC for all of their hard work, thought, and leadership.



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Capt. Mills asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.

View the closing remarks (link is timestamped for Closing Remarks and Adjourn):
https://youtu.be/uKXv_G7zs0?t=5248

Appendix A: FAA Meeting Attendees

Name	Title	Org.
1. Brad Mims	Deputy Administrator	FAA
2. Jay Merkle	Executive Director, UAS Integration Office (DFO)	FAA
3. Terry McVenes	President, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	RTCA
4. Karina Perez	Director, Uncrewed and Emerging Aviation Technologies	AIA
5. Abby Smith	Deputy Executive Director, UAS Integration Office	FAA
6. Pete Dumont	Chief Executive Officer, Rare Air Solutions	
7. Daniel Elgas	Deputy Director, Policy and Innovation Division, Aircraft Certification Service	FAA
8. Diana Robinson	Project Manager, UAS Integration Office	FAA
9. Gary Kolb	UAS Stakeholder & Committee Officer, UAS Integration Office	FAA

FAA/DOT Observers and Stakeholders

Name	Title	Org.
1. Hillary Heintz	Senior Advisor to Deputy Administrator	FAA
2. Claudio Manno	Associate Administrator, Security and Hazardous Materials Safety	FAA
3. Winsome Lenfert	Deputy Associate Administrator, Airports	FAA
4. Jodi Baker	Deputy Associate Administrator, Aviation Safety	FAA
5. Vinn White	Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary of Transportation	DOT
6. Peter Irvine	Deputy Director, X50	DOT
7. Ryan Steinbach	Aviation Policy Coordinator, Office of the Secretary of Transportation	DOT
8. Sabrina Saunders-Hodge	Director, Research, Engineering, and Analysis, UAS Integration Office	FAA
9. Leesa Papier	Executive Director, Office of National Security Programs and Incident Response	FAA
10. Adrienne Vanek	Director, International Division, UAS Integration Office	FAA



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Name	Title	Org.
11. Genevieve Sapir	Attorney-Advisor, General Counsel	FAA
12. Martha Christie	Acting Director, Safety & Integration Division, UAS Integration Office	FAA
13. Elizabeth Forro	Special Assistant, UAS Integration Office	FAA
14. Kamisha Walker	Management Assistant, UAS Integration Office	FAA