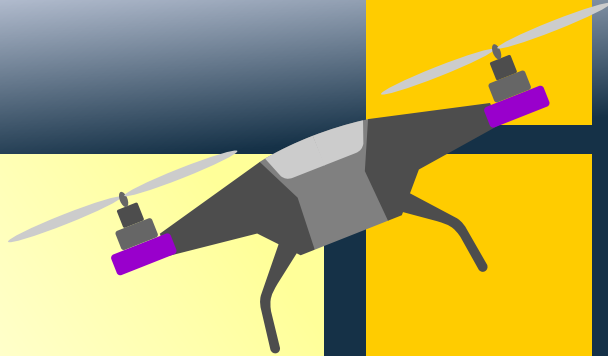




**FAA**  
Aviation Safety

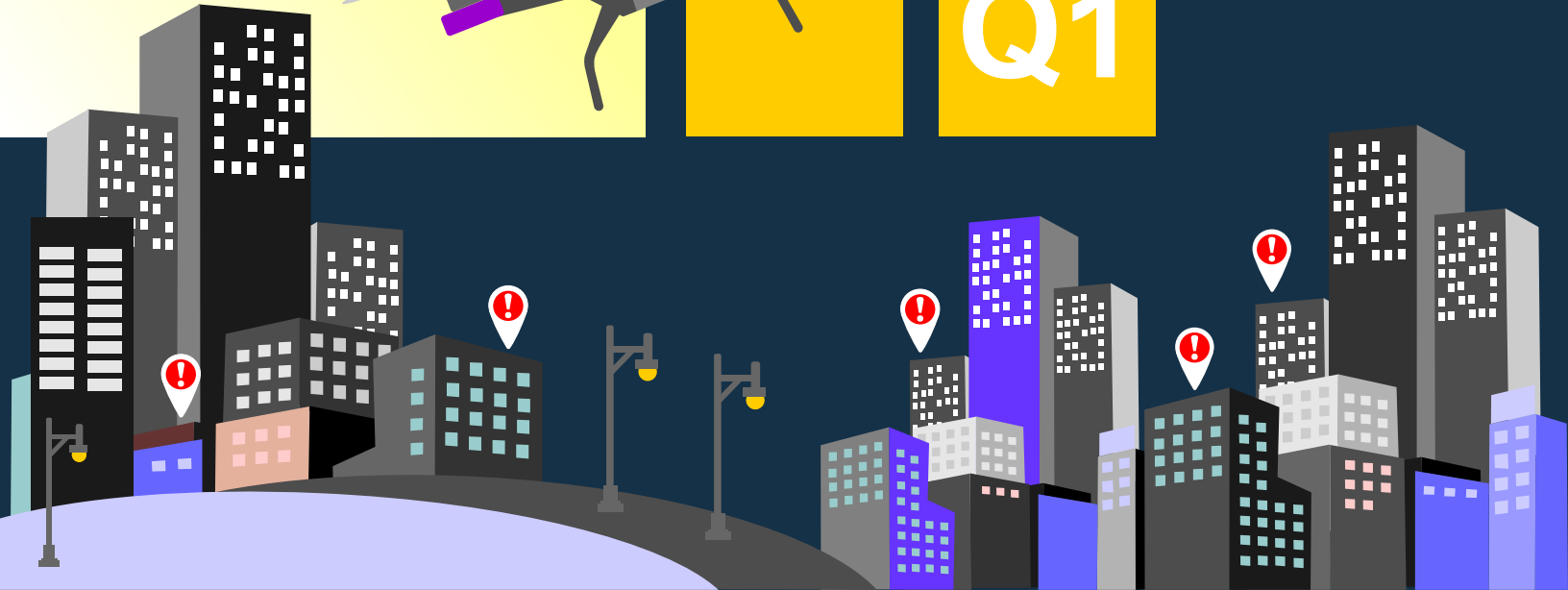


FY 2019

**AUS**

QUARTERLY  
REPORT

**Q1**



# Introduction

This document provides an overview of the UAS Integration Office's high-level accomplishments in FY 2019, Quarter 1 (October – December, 2018). When available, links to further information are supplied.

**October 1, 2018**

**FAA Approves 9 New LAANC Service Providers**

On October 1, 2018 the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced nine new partners to its Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC) initiative, an innovative collaboration between the FAA and the drone industry that provides near real-time processing of airspace authorizations for Part 107 drone operators nationwide who fly in controlled airspace.

Following the FAA's successful prototype, the initiative was simultaneously opened to additional air traffic control facilities and to new industry partners. The five-month onboarding process that began in April resulted in nine new LAANC partners – Aeronyde, Airbus, AiRXOS, Altitude Angel, Converge, DJI, KittyHawk, UASidekick and Unify. The nine join five companies – AirMap, Harris Corp., Project Wing, Skyward and Thales Group – that have already met the technical and legal requirements to provide LAANC Services.

<https://www.faa.gov/news/updates/?newsId=91744>

**October 9, 2018**

**Hurricane Michael: Information for Drone Operators**

On October 9, 2018 and again on October 12, the FAA released information for drone operators regarding Hurricane Michael. The FAA warned drone operators that flying an unauthorized drone could interfere with local, state and federal rescue and recovery missions. The announcement further warned operators that they could be subject to significant fines if they interfered with emergency response operations, and that flying a drone without authorization in or near the disaster area may violate federal, state, or local laws and ordinances.

<https://www.faa.gov/news/updates/?newsId=91885>

**October 26, 2018**

**FAA Restricts Drones Operating Near DOD and USCG Mobile Assets**

At the request of the Department of Defense (DOD) and the United States Coast Guard (USCG), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) used its existing authority under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations § 99.7 – “Special Security Instructions” – to address concerns about potentially malicious drone operations over certain, high-priority maritime operations.

The FAA, in cooperation with DOD and USCG, restricted drone flights near U.S. Navy (USN) and USCG vessels operating in the vicinity of Naval Base Kitsap in Washington state and Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay in Georgia. Drone operations are required to maintain a distance of at least 3,000 feet laterally and 1,000 feet vertically from these vessels.

<https://www.faa.gov/news/updates/?newsId=92108>

**November 19, 2018**  
**More than 50,000 LAANC Applications Processed**

On November 19, 2018, the FAA announced that its nationwide deployment of the Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC) has exceeded all of the program's original objectives.

Since the program began with a prototype system in November 2017, LAANC had processed more than 50,000 applications from drone operators for authorization to fly in controlled airspace. At that point the system covered almost 300 air traffic facilities serving approximately 500 airports, providing near-instantaneous approvals and allowing operators to quickly plan their flights.

<https://www.faa.gov/news/updates/?newsId=92273>

**November 29, 2018**  
**FAA Announces Key Appointments for Executive Directors of Aircraft Certification and UAS Integration**

On November 29, 2018, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced Earl Lawrence's promotion to the Agency's Executive Director for Aircraft Certification. Lawrence was previously Executive Director for the FAA's Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Integration Office. He succeeds Dorenda Baker, who retired Nov. 30 after a distinguished aviation safety career.

Jay Merkle, Deputy Vice President for the FAA Air Traffic Organization's Program Management Office, became the new head of UAS Integration. The appointments were effective Dec. 9, and both executives report to FAA Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety Ali Bahrami.

[https://www.faa.gov/news/press\\_releases/news\\_story.cfm?newsId=23334](https://www.faa.gov/news/press_releases/news_story.cfm?newsId=23334)

**December, 2018**  
**Buzzy the Drone Holiday Drone Safety Campaign**

AOC and AUS-10 collaborated to develop a holiday drone safety campaign. The first "Buzzy the Drone" video was launched on Dec. 4. Additional "Buzzy" videos were launched throughout December.

**December 14, 2018**  
**Urban Air Mobility Roundtable Check-In**

On Dec. 14, AVS-1 and AUS-1 met with GAMA/AIA (General Aviation Manufacturers Association, and Aerospace Industries Association) to check in on the planned Urban Air Mobility (UAM) roundtable in January. The meeting focused on alignment of roundtable objectives, status of industry's framework for UAM, and expected industry participation.

**December 19, 2018**  
**Know Your Authority: Unauthorized Drone Operations**

On December 19, 2018, AUS released a "roll call" video for law enforcement titled "Know Your Authority: Unauthorized Drone Operations."

The video is available at  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnxG6uYZd5k&feature=youtu.be>