



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Aviation Rulemaking Committee Charter

Effective Date: 6/6/2017
Amended Date: 11/20/2017

SUBJECT: UAS in Controlled Airspace Aviation Rulemaking Committee

1. **PURPOSE.** This charter establishes the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in Controlled Airspace (UASCA) Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC), according to the Administrator's authority under Title 49 of the United States Code (49 U.S.C. § 106(p)(5)). The sponsor of the ARC is the Director of Airspace Services. This charter outlines the ARC's organization, responsibilities, and tasks.
2. **BACKGROUND.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) formed a UAS ARC in June 2011 that expired in June 2016. One of the sub groups under this ARC was the Airspace Management – Early Implementation Project Working Group. This working group produced a very mature set of specific recommendations focused on larger, Class 5 UAS operations in controlled airspace.

The UASCA ARC will leverage this working group's mature, industry developed recommendation plan. Key federal and industry partners were heavily involved in the work of the previous UAS ARC and will continue their participation through the UASCA ARC. This work will focus on large UAS operating in controlled airspace and delivering benefits to both federal and civil entities more quickly. Demand for access to Class A and Upper E airspace continues to grow, and this work not only postures the U.S. to provide greater access to our federal partners but also to continue to lead in influencing the development of international standards and global airspace procedures.

The FAA is committed to safe integration of UAS into the National Airspace System (NAS). Contained in the FAA's 2013 *Integration of Civil UAS in the NAS Roadmap* is an Airspace Management Plan detailing the activities required through Fiscal Year 2022 to accomplish full integration of UAS in the NAS. While this plan addresses the larger scope of airspace integration, the FAA has identified a near-term need for normalized routine airspace operations and procedures that will allow for the future use of civil UAS. To achieve this, further engagement with industry and stakeholders is needed before conducting rulemaking to address the regulatory framework for airspace integration. See 14 CFR §91.135.

3. **OBJECTIVES OF THE ARC.** The UASCA ARC will provide a forum to discuss and provide recommendations to the FAA, and is tasked specifically to develop recommendations for the integration of UAS into the NAS.
4. **TASKS OF THE ARC.** The tasks of the UASCA ARC:
 - a. Develop and recommend scenarios that encompass the most desired operations. In developing the recommendation, the ARC should consider including, at a minimum: operational capability of the aircraft, air traffic separation services required, air traffic

control automation capabilities, the outcome of fast time modeling and simulation data, and the outcome of real time human-in-the-loop modeling and simulation data.

- b. Identify where gaps exist in research and development needed to inform the successful integration of UAS into controlled airspace. The ARC should evaluate research currently being conducted and its applicability and alignment to operations in all classes of airspace.
- c. Develop and recommend up to five prioritized changes and/or additions to capabilities and/or procedures required to achieve the successful integration of UAS into controlled airspace. In developing the recommendation, the ARC should consider the scenarios that encompass the most desired operations. Of particular interest are items with mutual benefit to the FAA and Industry, and may be implemented in the next one to five years.
- d. Within 24 months from the effective date of the original charter, submit a recommendation report.
 - i. The Industry Co-Chair sends the recommendation report to the FAA Co-Chair and the Director of the Office of Rulemaking.
 - ii. The FAA Co-Chair determines when the recommendation report and records, pursuant to paragraph (8) will be made available for public release.

5. ARC PROCEDURES.

- a. The ARC acts solely in an advisory capacity by advising and providing written recommendations to the FAA Co-Chair.
- b. The ARC may propose related follow-on tasks outside the stated scope of the UASCA ARC to the FAA Co-Chair.
- c. The ARC may reconvene following the submission of the recommendation report for the purposes of providing advice and assistance to the FAA, at the discretion of the FAA Co-Chair, provided the charter is still in effect.

6. ARC ORGANIZATION, MEMBERSHIP, AND ADMINISTRATION. The FAA will set up a committee of members representing a diverse set of aviation stakeholders, to include the UAS Industry. Members will be selected based on their familiarity and experience with UAS, aircraft operations, air traffic operations, and airspace procedures. Membership will be balanced in viewpoints, interests, and knowledge of the committee's objectives and scope.

The provisions of the August 13, 2014 Office of Management and Budget guidance, "Revised Guidance on Appointment of Lobbyists to Federal Advisory Committees, Boards, and Commissions" (79 FR 47482), continues the ban on registered lobbyists participating on Agency Boards and Commissions if participating in their "individual capacity." The revised guidance allows registered lobbyists to participate on Agency Boards and Commissions in a "representative capacity" for the "express purpose of providing a committee with the views of a nongovernmental

entity, a recognizable group of persons or nongovernmental entities (an industry, sector, labor unions, or environmental groups, etc.) or state or local government.” For further information, refer to the OMB guidance at 79 FR 47482.

Membership is limited to promote discussion. Attendance, active participation, and commitment by members are essential for achieving the objectives and tasks. When necessary the ARC may set up specialized and temporary working groups that include at least one ARC member and invited subject matter experts from industry and government.

The UASCA ARC will consist of members from the aviation community and industry member organizations that have a vested interest in UAS procedures. FAA and other subject matter experts may be requested to participate as Observers and to provide technical support to UASCA ARC members.

- a. The Director of Airspace Services will function as the FAA Co-Chair and will:
 - 1) Select and appoint industry and the FAA participants as members;
 - 2) Select the Industry Co-Chair from the membership of the ARC;
 - 3) Ensure FAA participation and support from all affected lines-of-business;
 - 4) Provide notification to the members of the time and place for each meeting; and
 - 5) Receive any status report and the recommendations report.
- b. The Industry Co-Chair will be appointed from the UAS community. Once appointed, the Industry Co-Chair will:
 - 1) Coordinate required ARC meetings in order to meet the objectives and timelines;
 - 2) Establish and distribute meeting agendas in a timely manner;
 - 3) Keep meeting notes, if deemed necessary;
 - 4) Perform other responsibilities as required to ensure the objectives are met;
 - 5) Provide status reports, as requested, in writing to the FAA Co-Chair; and
 - 6) Submit the recommendation report to the FAA Co-Chair and the Director of the Office of Rulemaking.

7. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** Meetings are not open to the public. Persons or organizations outside the ARC who wish to attend a meeting must get approval in advance of the meeting from the Industry Co-Chair and the FAA Co-Chair.
8. **AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS.** Consistent with the Freedom of Information Act, Title 5, U.S.C. § 552, records, reports, agendas, working papers, and other documents that are made available to or prepared for or by the UASCA ARC will be available for public inspection and copying at the FAA UAS Integration Office, 490 L’Enfant Plaza, SW, Suite 7225, Washington, DC, 20024. Fees will be charged for information furnished to the public according to the fee schedule published in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 7.

This charter may be found on the FAA Committee Database website at:
http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/rulemaking/committees/documents/.

9. **DISTRIBUTION.** This charter is distributed to: Executive Director of the UAS Integration Office, Executive Director for Emerging Technologies Integration, Director of Airspace Services, Office of the Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, Air Traffic Organization, Office of the Chief Counsel, Office of Aviation Policy and Plans, and Office of Rulemaking.
10. **EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION.** The ARC is effective upon issuance of this amended charter and will remain in existence until June 6, 2019, unless the charter is sooner suspended, terminated, or extended by the Administrator.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on November 20, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael P. Huerta', with a circled '1' at the end.

Michael P. Huerta
Administrator