



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

Dear COA Holder:

You are receiving this letter because you hold a Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to conduct Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) operations in the National Airspace System (NAS). This letter provides UAS operators with information regarding the statutory requirement to register aircraft and includes details on the registration process and marking. If you need to register aircraft, you will have 45 days from the date of this letter to submit an Aircraft Registration Application to the FAA.

### **Aircraft Registration Requirements**

Title 49 §§ 44101-44104 prohibit operation of unregistered aircraft and establish the requirements for aircraft registration. The regulations implementing those requirements are found in 14 CFR part 47.

Public Aircraft are not excepted from the registration requirements. Under § 47.3, aircraft owned by U.S. citizens, lawfully admitted permanent residents of the United States, and U.S. corporations are eligible for registration and operation. This includes U.S. Government, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, territories, or possessions of the United States and political subdivisions thereof.

No registration is required for UAS owned by the Armed Forces or under temporary ownership of the Armed Forces. 49 USC § 44101(b)(2); 14 CFR §47.3(b) (3). If temporary ownership of UAS by the Armed Forces ceases, the UAS must be registered prior to operating in the NAS.

### **UAS Registration Process and Numbers**

To register UAS, you must submit an Aircraft Registration Application, AC Form 8050-1, and evidence of ownership to the Aircraft Registration Branch (AFS-750). Registration costs \$5.00. Complete details for registering UAS and reserving an N-number are provided online at [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov). For your convenience, instructions and a blank registration form are attached.

### **UAS Registration Marking**

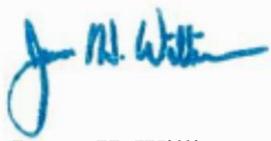
UAS must be marked with their U.S. nationality and registration marks (N-Number) in accordance with 14 CFR Part 45. Most full scale UAS are able to comply with the marking requirements, including size and location of the N-Number on the aircraft. Sub-scale or small UAS, or UAS of a non-conventional shape such as a multi-rotor (quad-copter, octo-copter, etc.) or ducted fan may not be able to comply with Part 45 or the guidance in AC 45-2D because of size or space limitations on the aircraft. In these cases, markings may be as large as practicable, or a person may apply to the FAA for an alternative marking procedure. See 14 CFR §§ 45.22(d); 45.29(f). Alternate marking approvals may be issued to public aircraft by FAA UAS Integration Office (AFS-80).

### **Instructions for Operators**

Effective immediately, all UAS operated under a COA, other than those excepted by 49 USC § 44101(b), must be registered and marked. For those to be operated under a new COA, the UAS must be registered and marked prior to COA application. The aircraft registration number (N-number) must be entered into the "Aircraft Registration" field, of the System Description section in COA online. If alternative markings were required, a copy of the Alternative Marking approval letter should be attached to application in the "Aircraft Registration" field. Applications for registration must be submitted for aircraft currently operating under an existing COA within 45 days of the date of this letter. COA holders will confirm their aircraft have been registered by entering the registration number, (N-number) in the Monthly Operational Report, in the block labeled, "Describe any other Operational / Coordination Issued." Failure to comply with the registration requirements within the prescribed timeframe may result in a suspension of the COA or a delay in the renewal of the COA.

Additional questions can be directed to Ken Fugate, AFS-86, (202) 267-8259, or the Aircraft Registration Branch, AFS-750, (405) 954-3116, toll free 1-866-762-9434.

Sincerely,



James H. Williams  
Manager  
UAS Integration Office, AFS-80

**References**

14 CFR, Part 45

14 CFR, Part 47

Title 49 §44101-44104

FAA Advisory Circular 45-2D

## UAS Registration Instructions

To begin the registration process, the following must be sent to the Aircraft Registration Branch (AFS-750):

- 1. Aircraft Registration Application, AC Form 8050-1.** An original Aircraft Registration Application (AC Form 8050-1) is required. Photocopies or computer-generated copies of this form are not acceptable. Aircraft Registration Applications may be obtained from the Aircraft Registration Branch or your local FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO). For your convenience, a blank registration form is attached.
- 2. Evidence of ownership.** A Bill of Sale or Affidavit of Ownership is required. The purchaser under a contract of conditional sale is considered the owner for the purpose of registration. The first time a new aircraft is registered, the manufacturer must complete and submit Aeronautical Center Form 8050-88, Affidavit of Ownership for Experimental Aircraft Including Amateur-Built Aircraft and Other Non-Type Certificated Aircraft (AC Form 8050-88), selecting the third box for build type. The first time a used aircraft is registered, the applicant must complete AC Form 8050-88, selecting the fourth box for the build type and the sub-box indicating the type of evidence of ownership enclosed with or attached to the form.
- 3. Registration fee.** A \$5.00 registration fee is also required, payable to the Federal Aviation Administration.

Your application for aircraft registration must include the typed or printed name of each applicant with their signature in the signature block. Applications that do not include the printed or typed name of the signer will be returned.

All U.S. aircraft registration numbers are prefixed by an N. The registration number, apart from the N prefix, is made up of one to five symbols, the last two of which may be alphabetical. This alphabetical suffix must be preceded by at least one numerical symbol. The lowest possible number is N1. A zero never precedes the first number. For example:

N1 through N99999, all symbols are numeric  
 N1A through N9999Z, single alphabetical suffix  
 N1AA through N999ZZ, double alphabetical suffix

A custom registration number may be reserved, if available, for 1 year by using the FAA online N-number reservation request application. There is a \$10.00 reservation fee (waived for Government offices).

All completed applications should be mailed to:

<p><b>U.S. Postal Service, Regular and Priority Mail:</b>          FAA Aircraft Registration Branch,          AFS-750          P.O. Box 25504          Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0504</p>	<p><b>Commercial Delivery Services:</b>          FAA Aircraft Registration Branch,          AFS-750          Registry Building Room 118          6425 South Denning          Oklahoma City, OK 73169-6937</p>
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