

February 17, 2015

FAA PROPOSES NEW COMMERCIAL DRONE RULES PAVING THE WAY FOR GREATER ACCEPTANCE FOR INSPECTION, DETECTION, MAPPING, SURVEILLANCE AND ANTI-CRIMINAL USE



Austin, Texas. February 17, 2015 – The FAA releases new rules for small UAS platforms and commercial applications. Public comment on the proposed rules will soon begin in order to establish operating limitations for unmanned flight as a whole. The objective is that safety is guaranteed for manned aviation, and for persons and property on the ground.

Large Aircraft and Commercial Activities

Unmanned vehicles that are larger are going more than likely going to see a slight difference in regulation than their smaller counterparts. Commercial activity utilizing these amazing aerial tools puts aircraft such as these into the public airspace, meaning that additional safety considerations must be met in order to preserve the safety of our National Airspace, and to those on the ground. Let's take a look at what's forthcoming for industry:

- Drones must be under 55 pounds,
- Flights will only be permitted during the day, between sunrise and sunset,
- The operator must always maintain line-of-sight during flight operations,
- The aircraft must be registered with the FAA and have identifying markings,
- Operators must be at least 17 years old,
- Operators must pass an aeronautical knowledge assessment,
- Operators must have an Operator Certificate,
- Operators must pass a TSA background Check,
- Operators must notify the FAA within 10 days of any accident,
- Manned Aviation has right-of-way,
- Operator aircraft posing a threat to manned aviation or to persons or property, must discontinue the flight,
- Pre-Flight checks like weather assessment, airspace restrictions, and vehicle maintenance must be performed before each flight,
- No flights are permitted over people,
- No flight speeds in excess of 100mph,
- No flights are permitted within flight paths, near airports, or in areas under Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR).

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