

Unmanned Aircraft Systems

The Global Perspective 2009/2010

PREFACE

By Peter van Blyenburgh
Managing Director, Blyenburgh & Co
President, UVS International

Over the last twelve months a number of significant unmanned aircraft system (UAS)-related activities took place and decisions impacting the UAS community were taken:

- The Advisory Rulemaking Committee on Small UAS, mandated by the FAA, came out with their recommendations.
- The European Institute organized the 3rd trans-Atlantic UAS roundtable in Washington, DC in November 2008 on the theme of «UAS for Security Applications».
- The first Chinese UAS conference took place (Sept 2008).
- UVS International signed a strategic cooperation agreement with International Aviation Group, China.
- The ICAO UAS Study Group got under way.
- EUROCAE WG73 and RTCA SC 203 continued their groundbreaking work on UAS standards.
- The EUROCAE WG73 SG4 on Light UAS produced their first deliverable with inputs from the UAS International Coordination Council.
- The «Joint Authorities for Rulemaking on Unmanned Systems» (JARUS) firmly established itself.
- Within the framework of its Global Access Initiative, UVS International created the UVS International Co-ordination Council.
- The French Ministry of Interior awarded UVS International a UAS regulatory study contract.
- UVS International partnered with Expo-Ecos to organize the UVS-Tech 2009 conference in Moscow, Russian Federation (Jan 2009).
- UAS were used for security purposes during the Olympics in Beijing, China, the EuroCup in Switzerland, and the NATO Anniversary Summit in Strasbourg, France.
- The Air4All consortium supplied the results of its study contract to the European Defence Agency (EDA).
- UVS International partnered with the Indian Ministry of Defence, Defence Research & Development Organization, Aerospace Development Agency, to organize the first Indian UAS conference (April 2009).
- The number of UAS systems deployed by the allied forces in Afghanistan, as well as the quantity of countries deploying them increased.
- The announcement by ICAO of the Global Air Traffic Management Forum on Civil/military Cooperation (Oct 2009), where UAS will officially be an agenda item.
- The number of UAS referenced in this publication has grown from 974 to 1190, representing an increase of 22%.

With the intent to continue to bring the global UAV community together and to give the community a means of communicating their views, this edition of the UAS yearbook is being produced with contributions from 67 international stakeholder organizations. This should be seen as a sign that the international UAS community indeed places a value on this publication and its role in federating the international UAS community.

International harmonization of rules and regulations pertaining to the insertion of UAS into non-segregated airspace can only



continue if there is continued contact, co-ordination and co-operation between all the stakeholders involved.

True harmonisation can only be achieved, if the industry and government drivers in this process agree on a common goal and together strive to attain it. The close coordination between EUROCONTROL, FAA and ICAO, as well as between EUROCAE & RTCA, and between the EC's DG TREN & EDA, are all good signs. The UAS community has a global problem facing it and should strive towards attaining a global solution. An important part of this endeavour is to create awareness of the community's efforts with all global stakeholders and to reach out to them.

This publication, which is now in its 7th edition, once again endeavours to present a general photograph of the current worldwide UAS situation and to supply a specific focus on selected activities in a number of countries.

The contents of this yearbook, which has a print run of 10.000, is posted on www.uvs-international.org and www.uvs-info.com, in order to make it accessible to the entire international UAS community.

In addition, all qualifying organizations (national ministries, EC agencies, NATO agencies & working groups, national government organizations agencies, military authorities, regulatory authorities, international organizations, international & national associations with UAS-related activities and stakeholder groups) desiring it, will receive a free electronic copy of this publication on CD for posting on their (intra) web sites. Requests for such a CD should be addressed by email, fax or letter to Blyenburgh & Co, or UVS International.

The 2006 edition of the UAS Yearbook was supplied to 159 organizations in 34 countries; the 2007 edition was supplied to 234 organizations in 35 countries; the 2008 edition was supplied to 257 organizations in 37 countries. This current edition will most probably be posted on more than 280 intra nets & web sites.

It is my hope that this publication will continue to contribute to creating a better understanding of the various stakeholder groups currently involved with UAS, to improving awareness of the various initiatives by the international UAS community, to federating the global UAS community for the benefit of all, and thereby to bringing the future nearer.

