

Unmanned Aerial Systems Friend or Foe - Part 2

Graham Lynn MBE

EAS UAS and Aeromodelling Technical Officer



Topics

Background
Working Group 73 Progress
UAS for VLOS Operations
Scenarios
Meeting at European Commission
Our Concerns
Summary



A "Model Aircraft" is one flown:

- For sporting or recreational purposes
- At National, Continental and International Competitions
- For Display at trade shows to promote model flying
- Within the "Visual Range of the Operator"
- Is not flown for financial gain i.e.: not for a commercial purpose



The Vision Statement from all Aeromodellers is:

"The Development and Introduction of Small UAS's should not have any detrimental effects on the long-established practices for sporting and recreational model flying".



The Vision of Europe Air Sports

"The overall objective of EAS is the long-term continuity of sport and recreational aviation in Europe with an "appropriate" amount of regulation without unnecessary restrictions, to ensure flight safety, access to airspace, free movement and efficient and cost-effective organisation of the operation"



Status Report Working Group 73 UAV European Organisation for Civil Aircraft Equipment - EuroCAE





- Staffing started in 2005 based on need to address lack of regulations and guidance for the operation of UAVs for civilian purposes in Europe
- Initial work based on existing documents, especially:
 - JAA-EUROCONTROL Task Force Final Report: A Concept for European Regulations for Civil Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs): 11th May 2004.
 - EASA Advance Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA) No 16/2005 Policy for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) certification: 2005.
- Kick-Off meeting held at Eurocontrol, Brussels, 20-21 April 2006



Deliverable 3 Operational Concept

- Vol 1 General Requirements
- Vol 2 Operational Requirements
- Vol 3 Airworthiness Requirements Over 150kgs
- Vol 5 Command, Control and Communications
- Vol 4 UAS for VLOS Operations
- Terminology
- Vol 5a Command and Control
- Vol 5b Communications, Sense and Avoid

Sub Group 4 UAS for VLOS Operations

- Established in 2007 to define standards for UAS less than 150kg
- UAS under 150kg under National Control
- Need for Common Standards recognised
- Little consensus on how to proceed
- Initial concept "mimic" Model Aircraft Procedures (strongly resisted by EAS)
- Recognised UK already had Regulation Document
- UK Prepared "sanitised" version of CAP 722
- SG4 "Europeanised" document into EUROCAE format
- Recognised 150kg legal limit not technology based

Sub Group 4 UAS for VLOS Operations

- SG4 Tasking amended to include all UAS Operating within Visual Line of Sight of the Operator
- VLOS Within "Unaided" visual range of Operator
 - Maximum of 400ft/150m altitude
 - 500m max Radius of Operations from the Operator
 - Class 1 No flying above or within 150m of people, property, structures etc not under the control of the operator
 - Class2 Flying above people, property, structures etc not within the control of the operator
 - Airworthiness dependant on mass and operating conditions, greater requirements for Class 2 – Formal Regulation



Regulation

Radio controlled model flying is split into 3 categories in the UK and similar arrangements are in place in most of the European countries;

- Under 7 kgs
- 7kgs to 20kgs (25Kgs)
- 20kgs to 150kgs

The majority of models More specialist models Small Aircraft Class

Model flyers have developed very effective procedures for monitoring the build and test flying of the Small aircraft class of models

Regulation for all the categories up to 150kgs remains at a National level



Model Flying versus UAS

This statement was published recently within W/G 73 :

"It is clear that UAS are not flown in a similar manner to model aircraft because, in all cases, the management of the flight is a secondary objective, with the achievement of the mission being the primary goal."

"In model flying the management of the flight is the only goal"

THIS IS PROGRESS INDEED

Scenarios

Europe

- Class A, B and C plus private airfield
- VLOS Operations for "small UAS
- First Scenario Meeting 23 April 2009
 USA
- Class A, E and G
- Pre flight, private airfield, departure, on route, Oceanic, arrival, private airfield
- Covers IFR and VFR Operations transiting class E, G A
- Class B-C-D plus ATC provision deferred

UAS Progress Summary

- 5 Reports issued to EAS
- Report No 6 Tabled Today
- Guidelines UAS for VLOS Operations (under 150kg) finalised
- Initial Standards unlikely before 2015 for over 150kg
- Spectrum Allocation to be discussed at WRC 2012
- US FAA predicts Standards nearer to 2019
- Concern that Scenarios are not realistic
- GA Community appear disinterested (only CPU and EAS on W/G73 EUROCONTROL have stated: It is not "IF" UAS will operate in the ATM it is "WHEN"



Meeting at the EC

Present: Gilles Fartek, Hoang Vu Duc, Timo Schubert Rudi Schuegraf, Martel Felten, Graham Lynn

Purpose:Establish direct contact with the CommissionObtain overview of Commission's intentionsExchange views on UAS regulation



Commission Activities

- No regulation forthcoming Internationally
- Pressure from Industry to permit flights under 150kg
- Mandate only for civil UAS, cooperate with military
- Period of Reflection, then propose "rules" for small UAS
- -Two major options:

Reliable "Sense and Avoid" System

Segregated Airspace

Commission welcomed EAS Initiative – as "Stakeholder"



Aeromodelling

- Commission appreciates EAS expertise in this area
- Strong willingness to consider our inputs
- No intention to affect model flying in any way
- Main differences Accepted:

Model Flying: Flown for leisure and recreation main purpose" to fly the model " UAS: Flown for commercial purposes / gain main purpose " to achieve the mission "



Safe Operations of UAS

EAS concernes in respect of operations in uncontrolled airspace "Sense and Avoid" may not be as "reliable" as "See and Avoid" Commercial pressures to permit operations Commission agreed:

- UAS should not enter this airspace until "Sense and Avoid" technology is reliable and robust
- Proving the concept must occur in "segregated" airspace
- Commission believe UAS should carry "Recovery" system
- Only consider " controlled " UAS not autonomous



Safe Operations of UAS

- UAS flights may need to obtain specific authorisation
- Not the intent to compel other users to purchase additional equipment to support UAS operations
- EC not pro or anti UAS Just evidence gathering
- A step by step approach is envisaged

However

The Commission made the point that: aspects of the "Sense and Avoid ", if installed in GA aircraft, might increase safety



Next Step

Commission highly appreciative of EAS initiative EAS Participation as a "Significant" Stakeholder Rulemaking at a very early stage – under 150kg Establish an "Open" and "Transparent" Dialogue Political Conference planned for 1 July 2010 EAS to participate as a Stakeholder Purpose: To establish level of support for UAS operations from Member States Next meeting with Mr Fartek – 3rd Quarter 2010



The Way Ahead

The UAS Community must work together to:

Develop its own operational and maintenance procedures for "Small UAS's"

Attain its own "harmonised" frequency allocations

Develop a robust "Sense and Avoid" system to replicate or better the "See and Avoid"

Cause minimal disruption to:

established procedures

current airspace users

and should not be regarded as statements of EUROCAE policy unless approved by the Council.



Remember

Large UAS are flying in Controlled airspace now Small UAS are flying now, many illegally, and this trend will continue until positive controls in place EAS need to remain vigilant as there are several groups involved in the inception of civil UAS If introduced under strict control with a robust and proven autonomous Sense and Avoid system fitted UAS could have the ability to operate safely Questions