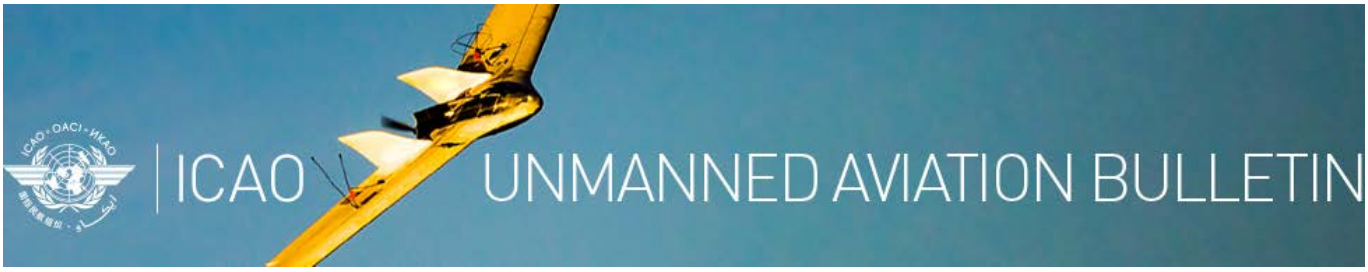


2018/1

AUSTRALIA - Review of remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) operations

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) of Australia conducted a review on the regulation of RPA operations. A discussion paper was published, with a view to obtaining community and industry views on key aspects such as registration, geofencing and training. Both the discussion paper and available responses can be accessed at the hyperlink below.

Source:

https://consultation.casa.gov.au/regulatory-program/dp1708os/consultation/published_select_respondent

CHINA - Online retailer plans to build nearly 200 drone airports to bring e-commerce to rural China

One of China's biggest online retailers, JD.com, plans to increase services to rural areas by building 185 drone airports in southwest China. JD.com hopes the new drone airports would allow agricultural products from Sichuan to be delivered anywhere in China within 24 hours, and cut costs by up to 70%.

Source:

http://www.businessinsider.com/chinese-online-retailer-is-building-200-drone-airports-rural-china-2017-12

RWANDA - Blood supplies delivered by drone

Zipline, a U.S. start-up, has partnered with the Rwandan government to launch the world's first commercial drone delivery service, ferrying vital medical supplies to its far-flung hospitals by air. Since December 2016, the company has dispatched more than 4000 units of blood products to 12 hospitals—red blood cells, platelets, and plasma that would have otherwise needed to travel by a treacherously tangled road network, losing precious hours in the race to save lives.

Source:

http://time.com/rwanda-drones-zipline

EUROPE - Drone owners will have to register their devices if "dangerous"

Drones which can cause significant harm to people either by crashing into them or presenting risks to privacy, security or the environment will have to be registered. "Dangerous" drones will be defined as having a kinetic energy of over 80 joules based on their mass and maximum speed.

Source:

https://mobile-reuters-com.cdn.ampproject.org/c/mobile.reuters.com/article/amp/idUSKBN1DU2PO

UK - Drone proximity incidents double

Proximity incidents between drones and manned aircraft more than doubled in the UK last year, rising from 40 such encounters in 2015 to 94 in 2016. Proposed measures, to be published in the spring, are intended to allow drone users to continue flying safely and legally. New measures will also make it mandatory for drone owners to register to improve accountability. Banning all drones from flying above 400 feet or near airports could also form part of the new regulations.

Source:

https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/business-aviation/2017-11-30/uk-report-drone-proximity-incidents-double

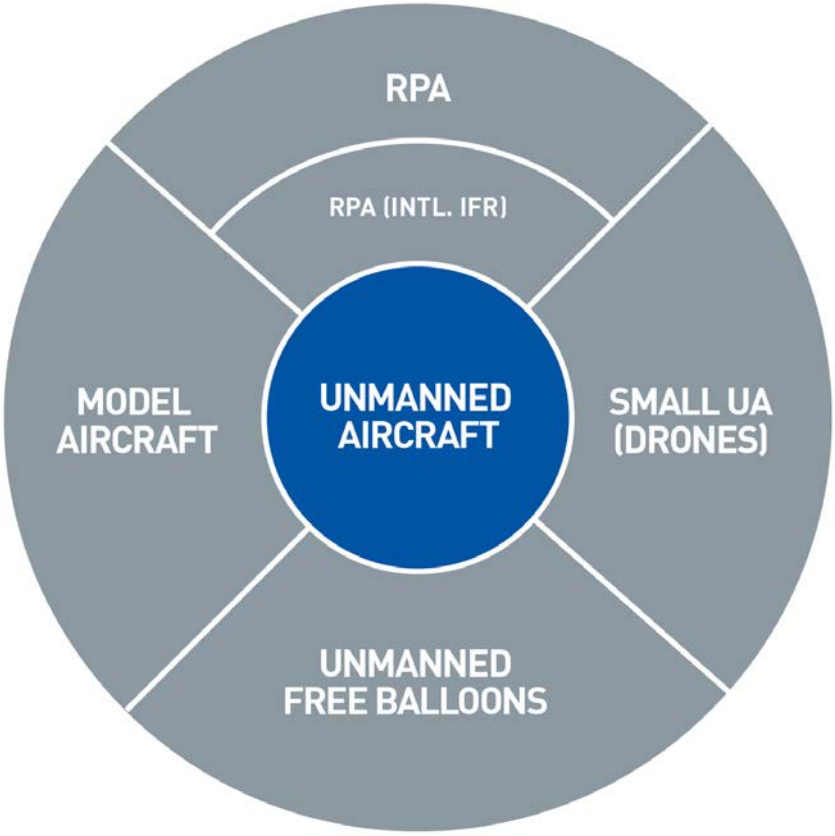
U.S. - FAA urges small drone pilots to wear vests

Use of brightly-coloured and reflective vests is expected to reduce the likelihood that someone will approach or query an UAS crew member engaged in safety-sensitive duties and will also help preserve a "sterile cockpit" for these operations.

Source:

https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/business-aviation/2017-11-30/faa-urges-small-drone-pilots-wear-vests

KEY TERMS FOR UNMANNED AVIATION



UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UA)

Unmanned aircraft (UA) operate as part of an **unmanned aircraft system (UAS)** which also includes a **remote pilot station** (RPS), a **C2 Link** for control and management, and other necessary **components**.

UA includes a broad spectrum of aircraft, from **drones**, **unmanned free balloons**, and **model aircraft**, to highly complex **remotely piloted aircraft (RPA)** operated by licensed aviation professionals.

REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT (RPA)

RPA are a subset of UA. A further subset of RPA is expected to be accommodated and ultimately integrated into the airspace for **international, instrument flight rules (IFR) operations**, which will require full regulatory certification.

SMALL UA/DRONES

Generally weighing less than 25 kg, this subset of smaller UA is commonly referred to as **drones**.

UNMANNED FREE BALLOON

This term describes **non-power driven**, **unmanned**, **lighter-than-air** aircraft in free flight.

MODEL AIRCRAFT

This term describes small size unmanned aircraft, generally representing a **scaled down version** of full size aircraft and used for **recreational** purposes in the sport and pastime of aeromodelling.