

UAS Test Site Request for Comments Webinars

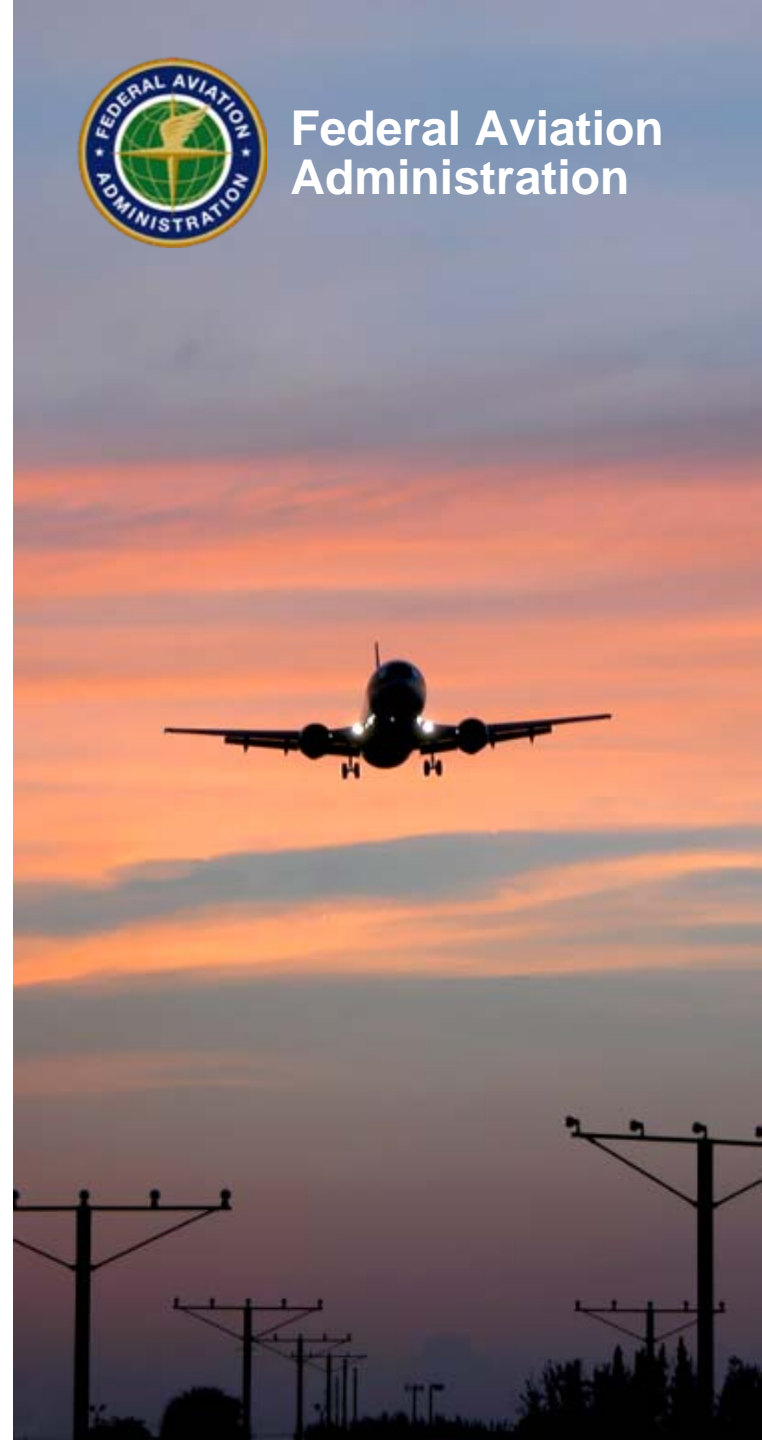
April 10th 10:00-12:00

April 11th 14:00-16:00

(Eastern Time)



Federal Aviation
Administration



Overview

- **Introduction**
- **Review of FAA Modernization & Reform Act of 2012 – UAS Test Sites**
- **Review of FAA Request for Comments (RFC) – Federal Register**
- **Timeline**
- **Q&A Session**



Introduction

- **Welcome Webinar participants**
 - This is a public webinar. Please be advised that media are participating and all statements are considered on the record
- **Discuss test sites only**
 - We will not be addressing any specific FAA operational policies or rules for UAS
- **One question at a time**
 - No statements
 - The moderator reserves the right to limit statements
- **Speakers should announce their name and organization prior to speaking. This includes anyone asking questions.**
- **Comments received during the Webinar will not be considered, you must still submit your comments to the RFC in writing**



FAA Modernization & Reform Act

- **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—**In establishing the program the Administrator shall—
 - (A) safely designate airspace for integrated manned and unmanned flight operations in the national airspace system;
 - (B) develop certification standards and air traffic requirements for unmanned flight operations at test ranges;
 - (C) coordinate with and leverage the resources of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense;
 - (D) address both civil and public unmanned aircraft systems;
 - (E) ensure that the program is coordinated with the Next Generation Air Transportation System; and
 - (F) provide for verification of the safety of unmanned aircraft systems and related navigation procedures before integration into the national airspace system.



FAA Modernization & Reform Act

- **TEST RANGE LOCATIONS.**—In determining the location of the 6 test ranges of the program under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall—
 - (A) take into consideration geographic and climatic diversity;
 - (B) take into consideration the location of ground infrastructure and research needs; and
 - (C) consult with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense.
- **TEST RANGE OPERATION.**—A project at a test range shall be operational not later than 180 days after the date on which the project is established.
- *The FAA will not be funding the set-up, management or oversight of the test ranges .*

Request for Comments (RFC)

- **Federal Register [Docket No. FAA–2012–0252]
Unmanned Aircraft System Test Sites**
- **The FAA believes that the combined capabilities of the six test sites should provide an environment and opportunities to test:**
 - (1) Conventional takeoff and landing capability,
 - (2) High speed flight,
 - (3) Maritime (launch/maneuver/recovery) capability,
 - (4) Operations at extremely high altitudes, and
 - (5) Evaluation of dissimilar aircraft in multiple altitude structures.
 - (6) Each site would not necessarily need to be identical, nor would each site need to have all five capabilities
- **FAA believes that these capabilities should be present in the aggregate of the six test sites. Are there any other capabilities that test site selection should include?**

Request for Comments (RFC)

- **Geographical and climatic diversity are desirable traits for the test site location**
 - The FAA believes that in addition to these traits, there are other important factors affecting siting, including:
 - Proximity to potential users
 - Availability of a suitable ground or air transportation network
 - Are there other siting characteristics of this nature that should be considered?



Request for Comments (RFC)

- **All UAS test site operators should be able and willing to demonstrate their ability and experience in conducting UAS operations and research**
- **Methods that test site operators can use for that include:**
 - Providing a detailed plan of operations (safety case, business case, etc.);
 - Demonstrating experience in managing and oversight of research and development (R&D) activities; and
 - Demonstrating the ability to mitigate technical and operational risk



Timeline

- **Request for Comments due May 8, 2012**
- **Test Site Proposals will be submitted to the FAA via a Screening Information Request (SIR)**
 - Estimated release July 2012
- **Test Site Selection estimated December 2012**



Questions and Answer Session

- **Website:** The FAA will post all comments received on the RFC to *<http://www.regulations.gov>*, including any personal information the commenter provides



Methods for Submitting Written Comments to the RFC

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:**
 - <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions.
- **Mail- send comments to:**

Docket Operations, M-30
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Room W12-140
West Building, Ground Floor
Washington, DC 20590-0001
- **Hand delivery or courier- take comments to:**

US Department of Transportation
Docket Operations in Room W12-140
West Building, Ground Floor
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

 - Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays
- **Fax:**
 - Fax comments to Docket Operations at 202-493-2251



For additional information

<http://www.faa.gov/about/initiatives/uas/>

