

Back to the future of safe UAS operations

Amsterdam, 21-22 March 2023

Agenda**DAY 1, 21 March 2023**

08:30	CHECK-IN AND REGISTRATION
9:00 - 11:00	GRAND OPENING - AMSTERDAM DRONES WEEK (HALL 12)
11:00	OPENING OF THE EASA HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE ON DRONES Master of Ceremonies: Janet NORTHCOTE, Head of Communications, EASA
11:00 - 11:10	Welcome, Opening remarks Patrick KY, Executive Director, EASA
11:10 - 11:25	EASA Highlights Patrick KY, Executive Director, EASA
DAY 1 FOCUS AREA – BACK TO THE FUTURE OF SAFE UAS OPERATIONS	
11:25 - 11:40	Keynote Address 1 Henrik HOLOLEI, Director General for Mobility and Transport, European Commission
11:40 – 11:55	Keynote Address 2 Jan-Christoph OETJEN, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN) of European Parliament, Member of European Parliament
11:55 - 12:10	Industry Keynote Speech 1 Margaret NAGLE, Head of Policy and Government Affairs, Wing
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK (FOOD COURT HALL 12)
14:00 - 15:00	PANEL 1: Implementing U-space – Airspace Integration Steps 26 January 2023 marks the U-space regulation entering into force. The first set of AMC/GM supporting the harmonised implementation of the U-space regulatory framework was published by EASA on 20 December 2022. U-space airspaces could start being designated by Member States before the end of 2023. The first U-space service providers will also be certified together with the single Common Information Service Providers before the end of 2023. It is expected that additional measures will be taken by EASA, the European Commission together with Member States and all stakeholders to support further airspace integration of manned and UAS traffic in the upcoming years (EC Drones Strategy 2.0, flagship action 1). The panel will discuss how U-space implementation supports the development of UAS operations and airspace sharing between UAS and manned traffic and which additional measures can be taken to enable further airspace integration steps.



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Amsterdam, 21-22 March 2023

Moderator: Patrick KY, Executive Director, of EASA

Panelists:

- Eugenio DIOTALEVI, Remotely Piloted Aircraft Task Force Coordinator, IFATCA
- Benny DAVIDOR, Initial Airworthiness Division Manager, CAA Israel
- Koen DE VOS, Secretary General, GUTMA
- Johan DECUYPER, CEO, Skeyes

15:00 – 15:30

NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK (BALLROOM, ELICIUM 2)

15:30 – 16:30

PANEL 2: Building IAM ecosystem – setting up a realistic implementation programme

Last year's High Level Conference on Drones was dedicated to the topic of IAM becoming a reality. Since last March, EASA has published the first proposed comprehensive regulatory framework to address new operational and mobility concepts that are based on innovative technologies, like unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and aircraft with vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) capability and foster and promote their acceptance and adoption by European citizens. This proposal was publicly available for consultation and the Agency is reviewing the comments. There had been several demonstrations in Paris and Rome during 2022 showcasing to citizens a first 'look and feel' of IAM vehicles in flight, including noise perception. One goal of these demonstrations is to enhance societal acceptance. The panel will discuss what are the concrete steps that can be taken, actions that can be performed in all areas (technical, operational, airspace, but also sustainability and societal acceptance) to build a realistic implementation plan enabling IAM in Europe. The corresponding EC Drone Strategy 2.0 flagship actions are 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Moderator: Dr. Joachim LÜCKING, Head of Unit for Aviation Safety, Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, European Commission

Panelists:

- Dr. Saskia HORSCH, Head of Global Regulatory & Public Affairs, Lilium
- Oliver REINHARDT, Chief Risk and Certification Officer, Volocopter
- Patrick CIPRIANI, Director of Aviation Safety, Direction de la Sécurité de l'Aviation Civile (DSAC)
- Rachel DAESCHLER, Certification Director, EASA
- Tan Kah HAN, Senior Director UAS Group, Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS)

16:30 - 17:30

PANEL 3: UAS Regulation implementation – Review of lessons learnt, challenges and opportunities

EU Regulations 2019/947 and 2019/945 set out the framework for the safe operation of civil drones in European skies. Regulation (EU) 2019/947 is applicable since 31 December 2020 in all EU Member States. It defines three categories of civil drone operations: the 'open', the 'specific' and the 'certified' categories. Member States have been busy implementing the UAS regulations and developing their internal processes, systems and procedures to enable safe UAS operations in their airspace. Notwithstanding, as outlined in the European Drone strategy 2.0 (in particular, flagship actions 3, 6 and 8), additional measures are needed to unlock the full potential of UAS and enable more complex UAS operations in a safe and efficient manner. What lessons can be learnt from the past 2 years of implementation? What is needed to support the development of UAS? The panel will discuss these topics and the additional measures that can be taken to further support the development of the UAS industry, including the capacity building from the side of the competent authorities.



Back to the future of safe UAS operations

Amsterdam, 21-22 March 2023

Moderator: Piotr SAMSON, Director General Civil Aviation, Civil Aviation Authority of the Republic of Poland

Panelists:

- Achim FRIEDL, Chairman of the Board of UAV DACH and President of JEDA
- Vendelin CLICQUES, President, IEDO
- Nicolas MARCOU, Director of UAS Programme, DGAC FR
- Dr. Thibault JONGEN, CEO, SABCA
- Nicolas BILLECOQ, COO, AzurDrones

17:30

CLOSING REMARKS (FOLLOWED BY RECEPTION)

Luc TYTGAT, Strategy & Safety Management Director, EASA

Back to the future of safe UAS operations

Amsterdam, 21-22 March 2023

DAY 2, 22 March 2023

DAY 2 FOCUS AREA – MOVING TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING URBAN AIR MOBILITY IN PRACTICE

09:00 – 10:30 **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 1a: UAS operations outside U-space airspace – application of SORA and utilising U-space services as air risk mitigation means**

There is an urgent need to enable BVLOS operations within European airspace in order to have a real drone service market. It is expected that the implementation of U-space airspace will be one of the enablers for BVLOS operations. The establishment of U-space airspaces within Member States' airspaces may take longer than expected, and these airspaces likely will not be established everywhere where UAS services might be needed. Therefore, there is a need to explore different ways to enable BVLOS operations in very low level airspace. The workshop will discuss what technical tools are available and how to utilise services alike U-space services outside U-space airspaces to support BVLOS operations.

Room: D201 – D202

Moderator: Natale DI RUBBO, Drones Project Manager (Open & Specific Category), EASA

Panelists:

- Stéphane VAUBOURG, Drones Project Manager (U-space), EASA
- Hans Petter HEIMRO, Inspector, CAA Norway
- Boško RAFILOVIĆ, U-Space Policies and Standards Manager, Skyguide
- Sabrina JOHN, Member of the Board, UAV DACH
- Michele D'Onofrio, UAS Fleet Management, Technosky
- Didier DECAESTECKER, Head of Sales, Skeydrone

09:00 – 10:30 **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 1b: Societal acceptance revisited: collaborative actions to address noise, sustainability and other citizen concerns**

The EASA study on societal acceptance in 2021 has indeed shown that there is a general positive attitude towards Drones and Urban Air Mobility, 83% of European citizens show a positive attitude and 49% would be prepared to try an air taxi. The new services are expected to reduce traffic jams and local emissions. The study showed that the most acceptable uses cases are those who have higher benefits for all citizens such emergency management and medical services. The study also pointed towards the most important concerns of citizens: noise, sustainability and wild-life protection as well as the need for the different levels of governance in Europe to work together for the smooth implementation and protection of citizens, e.g. as regards privacy concerns.

The objective of this technical workshop is to revisit these questions and assess the progress made as well as the concrete next steps to address them from the different perspectives of the eco-system, starting with the citizen and city perspective. The panel should assess the actions that industry is taking to address them as well as first real-life experience when citizens are exposed to new form of transport. Moreover, the panel will discuss how issues such as noise and sustainability are being addressed in practice and hear how regulators and all actors in the new ecosystem are trying to work together.

Room: D203 – D204

Moderator: Kai BAUER, Principal Advisor - Sustainable Mobility, EASA

Panelists:

- Franziska BIERMANN, Head of Unit Cluster Policy, City of Hamburg



Back to the future of safe UAS operations

Amsterdam, 21-22 March 2023

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- Francesca ROMANO, Head of Airport Accessibility Planning for Milan Malpensa and Milan Linate airports
 - Bobby HEALY, CEO, Manna
 - Ronald LIEBSCH, Senior Expert Aviation Regulations, Volocopter
 - Ralph SCHEPP, COO, Droniq
 - Ivan DE LEPINAY, Senior Expert Noise and Standards, EASA

10:30 – 11:00 **NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK (BALLROOM, ELICIUM 2)**

11:15 – 12:45 **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 2a: U-space – lessons learnt from initial U-space airspace designations and first USSP and single CISP certification projects**

Member States, ANSPs, CISP, USSP and UAS operators are preparing for U-space implementation. The designation of the U-space airspaces is based on the airspace risk assessment and the Member States will be working on this by now. In parallel, the relevant competent authorities from the Member States and EASA (for USSP applicants which are located outside the EU) are already starting certification projects. The panel should discuss the two topics, present lessons learnt, what are the challenges found so far and what are the best practises used.

Room: D201 – D202

Moderator: Maria ALGAR RUIZ, Drones Programme Manager, EASA

Panelists:

- Stéphane VAUBOURG, Drones Project Manager (U-space), EASA
- Jan-Eric PUTZE, Co-founder and CEO, Droniq
- Fabio CAMACHO, Head of UAS Department, Portuguese Civil Aviation Authority
- Ignacio URIEL, Head of Service CNS system, CAA of Spain (AESA)
- Elina MILLERE, Project Manager, Eurocontrol
- Amit GANJOO, Founder and CEO, ANRA Technologies

11:15 – 12:45 **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 2b: Remote Pilot-In-Command (RPIC) responsibilities / shared operational responsibility**

With the introduction of UAS, the pilot is removed from the cockpit and, although on ground, the remote pilot continues to be the ultimate responsible for the safety of the conduct of flight. Is there a change to the role and the responsibilities of the remote pilot due to this new setup? Is a new regulatory approach needed? What are the challenges imposed by new aviation technologies which ultimately aim at increasing levels of automation towards autonomy? Should the responsibilities be relocated or shared with other stakeholders involved in the UAS design and operations? What about the responsibility for avoiding collisions with other airspace users? This panel will explore and discuss the most controversial issues to be tackled when assessing the suitability of existing regulations and the need for new ones.

Room: D203 – D204

Moderator: Giuseppe SCANNAPIECO, Drones Project Manager (Certified Category), EASA

Panelists:

- Rita SOUSA-UVA, Senior Legal Advisor, EASA
- Rob AKRON-PUNSELIE, Vice Chairman UAS+, European Cockpit Association
- Alexandra FLORIN, Aviation Technical Standards Manager, Wing
- Lt. Col. Oliver HORZ, UAS Operations Expert, German Military Aviation Authority



Back to the future of safe UAS operations

Amsterdam, 21-22 March 2023

13:00 – 13:45 **NETWORKING LUNCH BREAK (FOOD COURT HALL 12)**

14:00 – 15:10 **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 3a: Use of ADS-L over SRD860 frequency band and mobile networks to support low-level airspace traffic integration**

To enable safe and efficient sharing of airspace between UAS and manned traffic, the development and implementation of U-space in Europe has become the necessity. Its deployment outside controlled airspace required the definition of safe and affordable e-conspicuity devices for manned aircraft including the development of corresponding technical specifications (ADS-L). This opens a completely new window of opportunities among others also to study the use of mobile phone technology to support sharing of traffic (and other) information between manned traffic and UAS. This panel will discuss the challenges and opportunities brought by ADS-L and aerial use of mobile telephony could offer to support safe, efficient, and affordable UAS operations together with a safer flying and better access to airspace for manned aviation.

Room: D201 – D202

Moderator: Sascha Oliver SCHOTT, Drones Section Manager, EASA

Panelists:

- Andrea ANESINI, President, Europe Air Sports
- Vladimir FOLTIN, PCM/ATM Expert, Certification Directorate, EASA
- Dr Thomas NEUBAUER, Vice President of Business Development & Innovations, TEOCO
- Toby POTTER, Head of Business Development, EMEA, OneSky Systems

14:00 – 15:10 **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 3b: Dual use of UAS for civil and State/military operations**

As already defined in the flagship actions numbers 15 and 16 of the Drone Strategy 2.0 for a Smart and Sustainable Unmanned Aircraft Eco-System in Europe, the European Commission encourages all relevant actors to further align certification requirements for civil and military applications towards those set by EASA while considering military specificities and existing military certification standards. Moreover, the Commission also intends to adopt new standard scenarios for civil operations that could facilitate corresponding military use cases (and other uses cases supporting State operations). The panel should discuss what could be appropriate measures to be taken among all relevant actors in order to enable successful fulfilment of these actions.

Room: D203 – D204

Moderator: Maria ALGAR RUIZ, Drones Programme Manager, EASA

Panelists:

- Patrick HADOU, Senior Military Advisor to the Executive Director, EASA
- Christophe VIVIER, Head of Single European Sky Unit, EDA
- Johannes HECHT, Chief Technology Officer, SCHIEBEL
- Matthias QUANDT, Head of Business Unit Products & Development / Accountable Manager, Airbus
- Antonio Marchetto, UAS Policy Project Manager within Certification Directorate, EASA
- Manuel GUCEMAS, Head of Certification and Regulation department, THALES

Back to the future of safe UAS operations

Amsterdam, 21-22 March 2023

15:15 – 16:30 **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 4a: Lessons learnt from eVTOL/IAM demonstrations in European airspace**
In addition to SESAR projects, some Member States alongside with their respective ANSPs, aerodrome operators, eVTOL OEM and operators as well as vertiport providers have launched demonstrations to enable IAM operations in their national airspaces. This panel will discuss lessons learnt from those demonstrations, share what worked well and what didn't, and how EASA may support these activities (e.g., through rule development such as Part-IAM, vertiport design, IAM Hub, regulatory sandboxes).

Room D201 – D202

Moderator: Sascha Oliver SCHOTT, Drones Section Manager, EASA

Panelists:

- Solène LE BRIS, Advanced Air Mobility Project Lead, Groupe ADP
- Maurizio PAGGETTI, Chief Operating Officer, ENAV
- Christian S. STRUWE, Head of Global Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Volocopter
- Carmela TRIPALDI, R&D New Technologies and Aerospace Director, ENAC
- Jia LE KOH, Regulatory Affairs Manager APAC, Skyports
- Juan José SOLA BANASCO, Head of UAS Division, AESA (CAA Spain)

15:15 – 16:30 **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 4b: SESAR U-space Research**
U-space is a set of new services relying on a high level of digitalisation and automation of functions and specific procedures designed to support safe, efficient and secure access to airspace for large numbers of drones. The multi-year, multi-million Euro research program, led by the SESAR 3 Joint Undertaking has been progressively expanding the envelope of U-space aiming at achieving a sufficient level of technology, operational understanding and trust to support advanced drone operations and to ensure their safe integration with Air Traffic Management (ATM) for traditional manned aviation. The first set of U-space services is now ready for deployment under the regulatory framework of the new European U-space regulation, which has come into force in January 2023. Three SESAR very large demonstrations kicked off in November 2022 with the aim of realising the full deployment of initial U-space services for drones at multiple sites across Europe; their first flights will take place in the summer of 2023.

The panel will feature speakers from all three demonstrations, as well as from SESAR projects SAFIR-MED, AURA and CORUS-XUAM, which have validated and demonstrated important processes between U-spaced and Air Traffic Management for manned aviation.

Room: D203 – D204

Moderator: Robin GARRITY, Senior Stakeholder Relations Officer, SESAR 3 JU

Panelists:

- Giancarlo FERRARA, Drone/U-space R&D Work Programme Manager, Eurocontrol
- Mikael SHAMIN, CEO, Helicus
- Manuel MARTÍNEZ, Expert U-Space/UTM System Engineer, Indra
- Luc ANTOON, UTM Manager, Skeyes
- Wassim DERGUECH, COO and Co-founder, Future Mobility Ireland
- Andrew HATELY, U-space concept expert, Eurocontrol