Emerging Commercial UAS Operating Environments (OE)

IFR-LIKE

UAS will be expected to meet certification standards and operate safely with traditional air traffic and ATM services. (Example Use Case: Communication Relay / Cargo Transport)

BVLOS RURAL

Low risk BVLOS rural operations with or without aviation services. (Example Use Case: Agriculture)

BVLOS URBAN

Must interface with dense controlled air traffic environments as well as operate safely amongst the traffic in uncontrolled airspace. (Example Use Case: Traffic Monitoring / Package Delivery)

VFR-LIKE

These UAS will operate at altitudes below critical NAS infrastructure and will need to routinely integrate with both cooperative and non-cooperative aircraft. (Example Use Case: Infrastructure Surveillance)

Non-cooperative Traffic

Cooperative Traffic

Terminal Airspace

Airport

Top of Class G

10K’ MSL

18K’ MSL

FL-600

Agricultural Aircraft

Helicopters

VLOS

Restricted Access

Routine Access

TIME (Notional)
Demand Drivers:
- There is a significant demand for visual line of sight flights to conduct precision agriculture, photography, and surveillance missions. This has been evident through the FAA’s incremental approval process from COAs to Section 333 to 14CFR Part 107.
- The demand for these missions to expand the approval envelope to include operations beyond visual line of sight has been increasing.

Representative Markets / Companies:
- Precision Agriculture (PrecisionHawk, Elbit)
- Wildlife Surveillance (NWF, Fish & Game)
- Aerial Photography (GoPro, Roofing, Real Estate)
- Remote Surveillance ( Pipelines, Railroads, Power lines, Mining)
- Vertical Infrastructure (Oil/Gas refineries, Bridges)
**Demand Drivers:**
- Beyond DoD, many organizations (e.g. DOI, NOAA, NASA, FedEx, DHL) have expressed an interest in using IFR-Like operations for surveillance, science, and cargo delivery missions.
- Industry is also very interested in using HALE UAS as a more reliable option to satellite communications for remote parts of the globe.

**Representative Markets / Companies:**
- Communications Relay (Facebook, Google, AeroVironment)
- Cargo & Passenger Transport (FedEx, DHL, Medical Supply, Thin Haul)
- Broad Area Surveillance (DOI, DHS)
- Weather Monitoring (NOAA, NASA)
- Emergency Response & Assessment (Land Management, FEMA, Insurance)
UAS Demand
Low Altitude Urban Operations

Demand Drivers:
- The most prominent example of UAS demand has been in the package delivery trade space. Amazon, Google, Walmart, and others have plans to use the low altitude volume of airspace for on-demand, door-to-door delivery of goods.
- Several public service applications exist such as news gathering, traffic monitoring and photogrammetry.

Representative Markets / Companies:
- Local Package Delivery (Amazon, Walmart)
- Traffic Monitoring (Local News Stations, Waze)
- Search and Rescue (Law Enforcement, First Responders)
- Infrastructure Surveillance & Protection (Airports, Stadiums, Prisons, DHS CBP)
- Construction Site Monitoring (Land developers, Tax Assessment)
UAS Demand
VFR-Like Operations

**Demand Drivers:**
- Demand for VFR-Like UAS will largely depend on their ability to establish a business case that is competitive with many existing manned aircraft operations.
- Beyond Visual Line of Site (BVLOS) operations for horizontal infrastructure inspection, regional package delivery and transportation of people are current markets for this class of vehicle.

**Representative Markets / Companies:**
- Horizontal Infrastructure (Railways, Exxon Mobil, Duke Energy)
- Regional Cargo Delivery (Amazon, Walmart)
- Personal Transportation (Uber, AIRBUS, Ehang)
- Humanitarian Studies (Red Cross, Health Dept.)
- Wildfire Monitoring (Fire Rescue, State/Local Authorities)