

RCC Air Transport Working Group: Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Work Plan

Canada Lead: Gerard McDonald, Assistant Deputy Minister, Safety & Security, Transport Canada
 U.S. Lead: Susan McDermott, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Aviation and International Affairs, Department of Transportation

Preamble Text:

Canada and the U.S. will jointly undertake ongoing communication on the adoption of standards for unmanned aircraft systems and establish a mechanism to share regulatory experiences, with a view to aligning regulatory approaches.

Timelines and Deliverables:

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| Action Plan Initiative | Establish a mechanism to share experiences on regulations related to unmanned aircraft systems, with a view to aligning regulatory approaches. | |
| Deliverable outcome | Canada and the United States will implement an ongoing information sharing program on their experiences with the development of Unmanned Aircraft Systems regulation with a view to aligning approaches in future, where feasible. | |
| Action items | Action Item 1: Discuss program experiences with a view to align regulatory approaches. | Action Item 2: Explore the feasibility of developing a cooperation framework between both countries. |
| | Interim Deliverables | |
| 3-6 Months | Teleconference between Transport Canada and the Federal Aviation Administration to share experiences and discuss proposed policy and regulations with respect to unmanned aircraft systems operating within visual line-of-sight. The first of the bi-annual Federal Aviation Administration and Transport Canada UAS Program Office face to face meetings will be held. Transport Canada will subsequently engage stakeholders at the Canadian Aviation Regulation Advisory Council Special Purpose UAS meeting. | Identify scope and elements to be included in the cooperation framework to align the regulatory process. |

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| <p>6-12 Months</p> | <p>Federal Aviation Administration and Transport Canada meeting to discuss status of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) after the unmanned aircraft systems NPRM proceedings close. The second of the bi-annual Federal Aviation Administration and Transport Canada UAS Program Office face to face meetings will be held. Stakeholder consultation, including technical input, will be obtained through the on-going Transport Canada Canadian Aviation Regulation Advisory Council UAS Working Group.</p> | <p>Initiate process to establish a joint cooperation framework between both countries that will align the regulatory regime.</p> |
| <p>12-18 Months</p> | <p>Federal Aviation Administration and Transport Canada meeting to discuss proposed regulations by Canada after the Canadian Aviation Regulation Advisory Council proceedings close. UAS will be added to the agenda of the joint annual meetings between the Federal Aviation Administration Flight Standards and Transport Canada, Standards group. Transport Canada will engage stakeholders at the annual Canadian Aviation Regulation Advisory Council Technical Committee meeting.</p> | <p>Implement joint cooperation framework that aligns the regulatory regime between both countries.</p> |
| <p>Beyond 18 Months</p> | <p>Federal Aviation Administration to brief Transport Canada on the US Road Map for all unmanned aircraft systems in conjunction with stakeholder meetings and identify areas of cooperation and agreement between Canada and the U.S. on unmanned aircraft systems regulations. Continuation of sharing of experiences on unmanned aircraft systems with an eye towards the harmonization of unmanned aircraft systems regulations globally.</p> | |

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