



# Implementing a Commercial Drone Program for Your Enterprise

Before an organization commits to implementing and launching an small unmanned aircraft system (sUAS) program, the following critical questions must be addressed and answered:

1. Is the organization prepared to operate and manage an internal aviation department?
   
 YES  NO
2. Is running an aviation operation in line with the organization's mission, core business and capabilities?
   
 YES  NO
3. Who is the individual primarily responsible for the organization's sUAS program?
   
 YES  NO
4. Who is responsible for assessing and authorizing applications of the sUAS technology to specific business usages/purposes?
   
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5. Are uses of the organization's sUAS consistent with the organization's ethics policy?
   
 YES  NO
6. Has the organization secured a certificate of authorization (COA) prior to any launch of the corporate sUAS?
   
 YES  NO
7. Is the organization ready to assume the responsibilities of flight operations?
   
 YES  NO
8. Has the organization identified all the complexities and challenges of operating an internal certified flight operations function?
   
 YES  NO
9. Does sUAS technology pose a risk to the organization? If so, what type? How is this risk expected to be mitigated?
   
 YES  NO
   
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10. What procedures exist to attest that any organizational use of sUAS technology:
  - a. is legal;
   
 YES  NO
  - b. is authorized and approved by executive management;
   
 YES  NO
  - c. is conducted according to established operational protocols; and
   
 YES  NO
  - d. meets or exceeds legal compliance requirements?
   
 YES  NO
11. How is sUAS technology classified within the organization? Is it IT? Is it operations?
   
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12. Does organizational sUAS operations maintain its own functional department?
   
 YES  NO
13. Will the organization be able to immediately (required prior to the maiden launch of the organization's sUAS) comply with federal legislation and state and local regulations for the safe and proper operation of its sUAS fleet?
   
 YES  NO
14. What added risk and liabilities will the organization encounter once it establishes an aviation function/department and is responsible for all of the compliance requirements associated with this function?
   
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15. Does the organization possess the knowledge and skill set necessary to perform an audit of the aviation department?

YES  NO

16. Who oversees the PIC and VO licensing/qualification process? Is it IT, operations, human resources or another department?

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17. What would be the impact on the organization's insurance coverage if the company's UAS operators were not qualified or certified?

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18. Does the organization maintain a policy for acceptable use of sUAS technology within the organization?

YES  NO

If not, does the absence of such a policy represent a potential liability to the organization?

YES  NO

19. Does the organization maintain appropriate levels of insurance, covering the operation, maintenance, storage and security of the sUAS and its related technologies?

YES  NO

20. Does the organization have up-to-date, operational lost link and fly away profiles, operating limitations and emergency procedures for each of its FAA-approved sUAS vehicles?

YES  NO

21. Are decommissioned sUASs purged of any sensitive technology, data and data retention/storage capability prior to their disposal?

YES  NO

22. Are data obtained in full compliance with the law, via sUAS technology, protected as company propriety information and as intellectual property?

YES  NO

23. Does your enterprise have a formal program with written procedures to guide the organization in the acquisition of appropriate, justified and cost-effective corporate sUAS?

YES  NO

24. Does your enterprise have a formal program with written procedures for vetting outside service providers hired to manage, maintain and/or operate the organization's UAS program, and do those providers maintain adequate and reasonable security and meet all legal compliances?

YES  NO

25. How will the organization demonstrate the capability to provide appropriate oversight of all third-party providers entrusted with managing, maintaining and/or operating the organization's UAS program?

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For more information on this subject, go to [www.isaca.org/drones](http://www.isaca.org/drones).

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