

UAV CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZATION SERVICES

Flint Hills Solutions and Kansas State University at Salina offer turnkey **Certificate of Authorization (COA)** technical services to the Unmanned Aerial System Defense, Commercial and Public markets that desire to fly in a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved air field in the National Airspace System (NAS).

COA LOCATION ASSESSMENT



OUR COA PROCESS INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING THREE MAJOR AREAS AS REQUIRED BY THE FAA:

1. **UAV Airworthiness Evaluation and Certification:** The Unmanned Air Vehicle (UAV) Airworthiness Evaluation and Certification process establishes performance characteristics and system descriptions to develop a detailed system overview and airworthiness evaluation.



2. **Personnel and Operations Qualification:** Flown either by FHS or parent company, the Personnel and Operation Qualification process evaluates the UAV flight operational scenarios of the UAV. This includes the documentation of maintenance, Air Vehicle Operators and Mission Payload Operator checklists, safety and emergency procedures processes.



3. **COA Location Assessment:** The COA Location Assessment develops specific COA locations and air space parameters for UAV operations that will be conducted in the NAS. Our process starts with an application for a customer's UAV at Crisis City, Kansas; a National Emergency Response Training Center located in the NAS. Once the Crisis City COA is approved, other COA areas can then be obtained including private fields and Class D, E and G airspace.



OUR OVERALL PROCESS TO SUBMIT THE COA TAKES ABOUT 3 WEEKS:

WEEK 1- PERFORM CRITICAL FLIGHT TESTING AND SAFETY ANALYSIS: FHS and K-State have special access to the Smoky Hill Range, an 80 square mile restricted range outfitted with UAV facilities including 2000 foot grass strip runway. This area provides initial critical flight testing and is conducted per a pre-approved Flight Test Card process. Flight Test data is collected and checked for compliance with aircraft parameters and safety requirements.

WEEK 2- COLLECT TECHNICAL INFORMATION: FHS and K-State collect and document all necessary information for the COA application and prepare the UAV Airworthiness Certificate.

WEEK 3- APPLY FOR COA: COA application is submitted and then we monitor/responds to FAA questions on COA application.

Once the COA is approved, FHS/K-State will conduct an initial flight test over the COA area to **VALIDATE, VERIFY, AND TRAIN** the operations team based upon the COA limitations as directed by the FAA. We also prepare the required monthly reports to the FAA and reapply for the annual COA renewal.

