

## DRONES

### Overview (Project Description):

A decade ago, drones were a virtually unknown phenomenon. Nowadays, thousands of these aerial vehicles are in use worldwide, and the use for civil applications is growing fast for both recreational and commercial markets (commercial “aerial work” and commercial aviation for the transport of goods and potentially for the transport of passengers and baggage).

The flight of Unmanned Aircraft systems (UAS), more commonly referred to as drones, can be controlled with various degrees of autonomy: either by remote control from an operator, located on the ground or in another vehicle (“Remotely Piloted”), or fully autonomously, by onboard computers using GPS (“Autonomous Flying”).

Drones come in all shapes and sizes. They can be used for air transport (cargo, baggage, passenger), fire-fighting, agriculture, humanitarian (search and rescue, disaster relief), for filming and multiple other applications that require cheap and extensive aerial surveillance (border patrol, weather monitoring, nuclear security, hurricane tracking, law enforcement).

The pace of development of the drone markets, both recreational and commercial, is incredibly fast, with challenges to be addressed and opportunities to be captured as it develops. Our industry needs to react quickly to integrate, facilitate and embrace the opportunities offered by this new branch of civil aviation. As the number of drones will continue to grow exponentially, a high priority must be placed on the development of standards and recommended practices that enable the operation of RPAS into the established aviation infrastructure.

Whilst a primary work focus for IATA is safety, we are also conscious that new areas of aviation, enabled by drones, are being considered by airlines and other stakeholders. Drones can revolutionize tomorrow’s air transport: air cargo, air travel, ground operations, handling, etc.

### Designed for:

- Aircraft and drones manufacturers
- Commercial drones operators
- Specialized consultancy firms
- Technology and robotics companies involved in UTM, geo-fencing, registration, and tracking, and other aspects of UAS operation
- Humanitarian agencies
- Freight & parcel delivery companies
- Urban mobility companies
- Transport ministries and ground transportation agencies

### Areas of Activities:

- Mitigation of safety and security risks posed by drones/UAS
- Safety awareness campaigns for regulators, operators, owners, and the public
- Unmanned Traffic Management (UTM) systems

- Standards and regulations for unmanned aircraft
- Registration and tracking
- Change of the human role with increased robotics and AI (impact on aviation jobs)
- Costs of new infrastructure and technology to integrate UAS
- Transformation in ATM
- Drones for tomorrow's air cargo
- Usage of drones on the ground for safety checks, maintenance, airport perimeter monitoring, etc.
- Drones in ground handling (unmanned ground service equipment)
- Liability and privacy issues

## Exclusive Access to Meetings & Working Groups

### IATA UAS Think Tank

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The IATA UAS Think Tank Meeting aimed at advocating for the safe and efficient use of UAS in airspace and near airports, and to provide an industry platform (manned and unmanned) to progress concepts of operations and best practices using unmanned technology. The Think Tank will meet twice a year and will:

- Serve as a virtual pool of expertise
- Review and promote case studies
- Push for innovative change
- Build networks and communities
- Spread ideas
- Catalyze action

## Additional Strategic Partnership's Benefits

### Branding

- Recognition as a valuable supporter of IATA and the air transport industry
- Inclusion in the IATA Strategic Partnerships online directory
- Exclusive usage of the IATA Strategic Partnerships logo
- Promotion through the electronic quarterly newsletter, the Partner Brief, viewed by thousands of aviation industry contacts
- Monthly posting of Strategic Partners' press releases on the IATA website

### IATA Clearing House Discount

Strategic Partners receive a substantial discount upon joining the IATA Clearing House:

The IATA Clearing House (ICH) provides the means to settle all the billed items sent to and from airlines around the world. Used by more than 400 airlines either directly or via special links, the ICH settles around USD 50 billion of interline billings every year. Its efficiency is so great that airline cash and settlement requirements are reduced by around 75%, and risks for all participants are minimized. <http://www.iata.org/services/finance/clearinghouse/Pages/index.aspx>

**Publications**

Partners may purchase publications at a preferential rate: [www.iata.org/publications](http://www.iata.org/publications)

**Courses**

Strategic Partners may attend, at a reduced fee, IATA training courses: [www.iata.org/training](http://www.iata.org/training)  
Strategic Partners may receive 55% discount on the first 2 seats per year to any IATA classroom course (subject to availability).