

A Guide to



Remotely Piloted Aircraft

Consumer Guide



Introduction

Remotely Piloted Aircraft

The purpose of this consumer guide is to raise awareness of the considerations for operating Unmanned Aircraft Vehicles (UAVs). The RPA (Remotely Piloted Aircraft) or UAV industry is expanding rapidly within Ireland and there is some confusion regarding utilisation of the technology.

The technology is aimed at assisting professional users in gathering data efficiently and cost effectively. But so many unanswered questions remain;

- Who is qualified to operate/fly UAVs?
- Are there any regulations to follow?
- Where do I find information on this?
- How do I quality assure the data output?

The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland intends to prepare best practice professional guidance for chartered surveyors which should:

- Ensure that organisations wishing to incorporate these systems within their businesses have the necessary information.
- Ensure that if organisations want to use a subcontractor, they know the minimum requirements needed to operate UAVs legally.
- Ensure outputs including mapping, measurements and inspections are of survey grade quality.



What are the rules of flying?

Basic Rules & Regulations



Currently UAV operations in Ireland are regulated by the IAA (Irish Aviation Authority) and these rules and regulations are in place to ensure that UAVs are being utilised with safety in mind for both the consumer, professionals and businesses. Please check the IAA website for the most current information on UAV regulations at www.iaa.ie.

Remote Pilots are not allowed to fly (unless otherwise permitted by the IAA);

- within prohibited areas
- in Air Traffic Services airspace, other than uncontrolled airspace, within 5km of an aerodrome during periods of aircraft operations, unless the aerodrome operator has given permission;
- at a distance of less than 30 metres from a person, vessel, vehicle or structure not under the direct control of the operator;
- at a distance of less than 120 metres from an assembly of 12 or more persons not under the direct control of the operator;
- beyond direct unaided visual line of sight and not farther than 300 metres from the point of operation;
- at a height of more than 120 metres above the ground or water;
- permitting, or attempting to permit, any article or animal, whether or not attached to a parachute, to be released from that aircraft.



These rules and regulations must be followed by both the hobbyist and professionals.

How to prepare to operate UAVs

The rules & regulations do not often suit the commercial world as they restrict the location of flight and how one might fly. Special permission can, however, be sought from the IAA to operate outside these basic rules and regulations. In these situations, the following steps have to be completed;

- 1) Training through an RTF (Registered Training Facility)
 - i. Ground School
 - ii. Flight Training
- 2) Have adequate Public Liability Insurance
- 3) Register with the IAA as a professional UAV company (the professional companies register with the Companies Registration Office (CRO), UAV Companies/Pilots register their UAV with the IAA through Asset (www.asset-international.com))

Only when all three steps have been undertaken, and the IAA recognise you as a professional entity, can you apply for further permissions. (Companies apply for permission on a project by project basis through suaairspace@iaa.ie)

Once the IAA accepts the person/organisation as a professional entity their information is listed on the IAA website and a certificate is produced.

All of this information can be found on the IAA website: (www.iaa.ie).

When utilising a UAV contractor the following questions that should be asked:

- 1) Proof of RTF certification?
- 2) Proof of Insurance?
- 3) Proof of IAA certification?
- 4) Proof of Tax Clearance Cert?

Once all of the above are provided you can be assured that the person/organisation meets the industry requirements.



Dating back to 1895, the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland is the independent professional body for Chartered Surveyors working and practicing in Ireland.

Working in partnership with RICS, the pre-eminent Chartered professional body for the construction, land and property sectors around the world, the Society and RICS act in the public interest: setting and maintaining the highest standards of competence and integrity among the profession; and providing impartial, authoritative advice on key issues for business, society and governments worldwide.

Advancing standards in construction, land and property, the Chartered Surveyor professional qualification is the world's leading qualification when it comes to professional standards. In a world where more and more people, governments, banks and commercial organisations demand greater certainty of professional standards and ethics, attaining the Chartered Surveyor qualification is the recognised mark of property professionalism.

Members of the profession are typically employed in the construction, land and property markets through private practice, in central and local government, in state agencies, in academic institutions, in business organisations and in non-governmental organisations.

Members' services are diverse and can include offering strategic advice on the economics, valuation, law, technology, finance and management in all aspects of the construction, land and property industry.

All aspects of the profession, from education through to qualification and the continuing maintenance of the highest professional standards are regulated and overseen through the partnership of the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland and RICS, in the public interest.

This valuable partnership with RICS enables access to a worldwide network of research, experience and advice.

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