

Skyguide demonstrates integration of drones into airspace by means of the U-space

Geneva, 14 September 2017 Skyguide, Switzerland's air navigation service provider, and its project partners demonstrated today in Geneva how drones can be safely and efficiently integrated into the existing airspace. The live demonstration of the so called U-space – the digital infrastructure, services, and procedures that will enable drones to integrate with the European airspace – proves that the air navigation services are ready for the next stage of drone integration. It could also open up the global market.

The project partners – which included skyguide, AirMap, SITAONAIR, senseFly and PX4 – performed three live missions flown by senseFly's albris and eBee Plus drones and a drone with pre-programmed PX4 flight controller to demonstrate how drones can be easily announced to the air navigation service provider through e-registration and e-identification. The integration with air traffic control, flight planning and airspace authorization as well as live tracking/telemetry and dynamic situational awareness were also part of the live demonstration.

"We see ourselves as forward-looking partners of the drone industry. The U-space can only develop successfully if the different players collaborate efficiently together and embrace innovation. The demonstrator shows that this is possible. I look forward to us taking the next steps together with our partners as soon as possible." said Alex Bristol, CEO of skyguide.

Any further information, pictures, videos and the joint media release are available at:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w2vk3zpfikdxz8g/AAA4srZR9jH3Pe_2cKE8I_VCa?dl=0

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Skyguide provides air navigation services for Switzerland and certain adjacent parts of neighbouring countries. With its 1,500 employees at 14 locations in Switzerland, the company guides some 1.2 million civil and military flights a year safely and efficiently through Europe's busiest airspace. Skyguide is well integrated into the international air navigation services community and, with its innovative and customer-minded solutions, helps enhance Switzerland's appeal as a place to live, work and do business. The company is majority-owned by the Swiss Confederation, and is headquartered in Geneva.
