



Swiss U-Space Powers Life-saving Drone Pilot Program in Switzerland

Geneva, 6 June 2018. Life-saving drones are taking off in Switzerland, thanks to a revolutionary pilot program announced yesterday by Swiss Post, the national postal service of Switzerland, and drone manufacturer Matternet in partnership with Insel Group, the largest and leading medical care system in Switzerland.

Beginning this summer, drone will transport time-sensitive medical laboratory samples and urgently-needed medication between Tiefenau Hospital and University Hospital Insel in the city of Berne. Today, those samples are transported via courier or taxi with significant delays due to ground traffic. Drones provide a safety, efficient, and reliable alternative, saving doctors and patients crucial time in addressing urgent healthcare needs. The pilot project hopes to expand to Zurich later this year.

This remarkable pilot program is also the first instance of routine BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Vision) operations supported by a nationwide integrated airspace system: Swiss U-space (Urban-Space).

In early March of this year, skyguide announced a partnership with AirMap to develop and deploy a national drone traffic management system for Switzerland. Swiss U-space, as it is known, will power Switzerland's thriving community of drone companies with UTM (Unmanned Traffic Management) services for advanced commercial drone operations like BVLOS.

"In March, skyguide, FOCA, and AirMap started on the path to deploy the first-ever national U-Space system in Switzerland," said AirMap CTO Andreas Lamprecht. "Today, we celebrate another first: operational BVLOS operations by Matternet and Swiss Post, powered by Swiss U-Space and the AirMap platform."

In the pilot program, Matternet drones will connect to skyguide's Swiss U-Space system, which integrates AirMap UTM core services to allow for coordinated beyond visual-line-of-sight (BVLOS) operations. AirMap UTM core services include geofencing, integration with skyguide's air traffic control radar system, dynamic situational awareness, and live telemetry.

Skyguide plays a pioneering role in the European development of U-Space and actively supports the integration of drones into Swiss airspace.

"We see great economic and social potential in drones. To exploit this potential, drones need access to Swiss airspace, which is already very busy. The so-called U-Space, which skyguide is developing together with Airmap, provides drones with this secure access, making projects such as those of Matternet and Swiss Post possible," says Robert Fraefel, skyguide's expert on drones.

The pilot program provides a strong example of how UTM and U-Space can be utilized to benefit our cities and communities. To learn more about how AirMap is bringing essential UTM and U-Space services to a community near you, visit www.airmap.com/utm and <https://www.skyguide.ch/en/events-media-board/news/>.

skyguide
swiss air navigation services ltd
media relations
CH-1215 Genf 15

Contact:

phone: +41 22 417 40 08

e-mail: presse@skyguide.ch

internet: www.skyguide.ch

Skyguide sorgt mit 1'500 MitarbeiterInnen an 14 Standorten für die Flugsicherung in der Schweiz und im angrenzenden Ausland. Rund 1,2 Millionen zivile und militärische Flugzeuge werden dabei sicher und effizient durch den am dichtest beflogenen Luftraum Europas geführt. Skyguide ist international gut vernetzt und trägt mit innovativen und kundenorientierten Lösungen zur Standortattraktivität der Schweiz bei. Das Unternehmen mit Hauptsitz in Genf befindet sich im Mehrheitsbesitz des Schweizer Bundes.

About AirMap

AirMap is the world's leading airspace management platform for drones. Millions of drones, hundreds of industry developers, and hundreds of airspace managers and stakeholders rely on AirMap's airspace intelligence and services to fly safely and communicate with others in low- altitude airspace. AirMap powers more than 85% of the world's drones through integrations with major drone manufacturers such as DJI, Intel, senseFly, Kesyry, and Aeryon Labs. With deployments in Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, Australia, and the United States, AirMap leads the industry in delivering technology solutions for Unmanned Traffic Management (UTM) that help drones safely share the skies.