



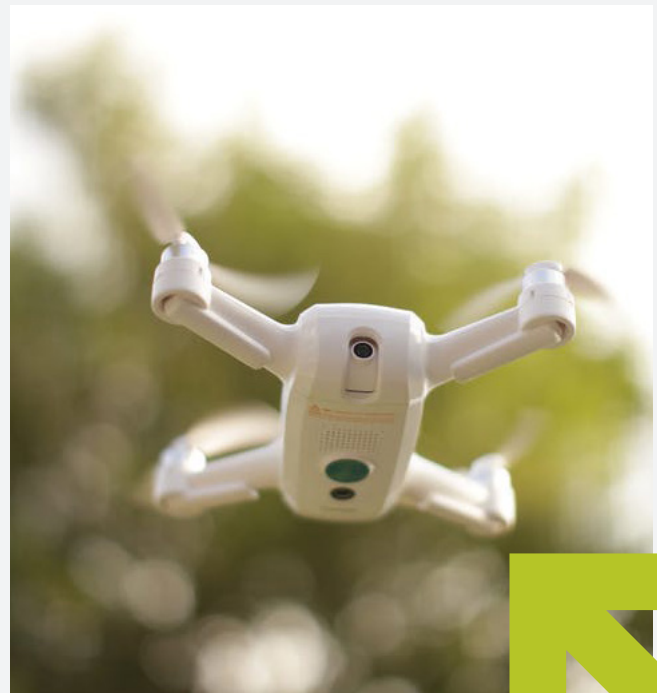
Innovation Case Study

Helping Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) flying become a safe everyday occurrence

The Issue

Making the flying of unmanned aircraft beyond the visual line of sight of the operator a safe everyday occurrence is one of the top asks of innovators around the world. It's the key to fully unlocking a whole range of flying from drone deliveries to search and rescue.

As well as the challenge of getting the vehicle technology to the level required for BVLOS we also get asked by lots of innovators to explain what needs to be achieved from an operational and safety approval perspective. Plus, what rules need to be put in place.



Developing our guidance

There's a significant amount of work going on around the world to develop BVLOS. Where we thought we could help was in setting out a roadmap of what we believe needs to happen for governments, regulators and the general public to accept everyday BVLOS, even by autonomous drones.

So, we produced our 'Guidance for Operating Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS)'. (available at www.caa.co.uk/cap1861). We think it's a really accessible, straight-forward document that sets out a roadmap to achieve BVLOS.

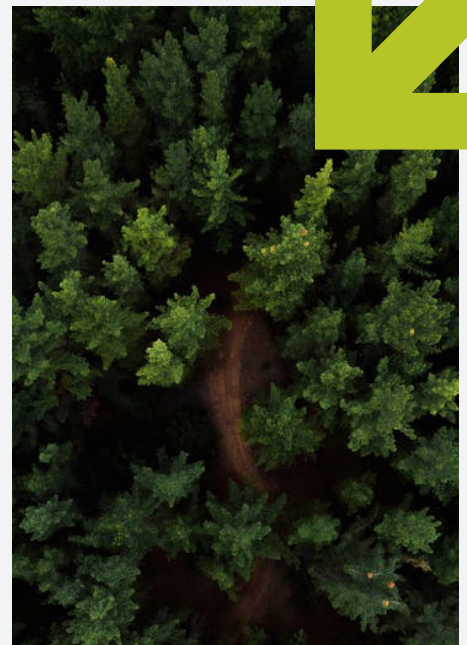
It explains to the wider aviation community what unmanned vehicles flying BVLOS need to fit into and the challenges that some of these other airspace users also face. It sets out the kind of testing we think needs to take place to satisfy regulators on safety and the kinds of wider data sharing that would need to occur for unmanned vehicles to sense and avoid other aircraft.

The benefits we can deliver with this kind of work

The guidance has been really well received by innovators and the wider aviation industry and helped shape the marketplace for BVLOS initiatives in the UK and beyond.

We have witnessed more innovators applying to join our BVLOS sandbox with a clear expectation of what is required of them to operate BVLOS in non-segregated airspace.

We believe the guidance document supports our view that as a stand-alone innovation team within a larger safety regulator we are uniquely positioned to provide both a bespoke advice service to innovators while also tapping into decades of experience as an aviation regulator.



Initial progress

We have seen a huge increase in the number of BVLOS concepts and trials being approved in the UK for uses across healthcare and postal deliveries, infrastructure maintenance and other world-leading solutions. Seeing UK businesses such as sees.ai, Skyports, Windracers and Flylogix creating technology that will benefit global infrastructure and markets is extremely positive.

