



Civil Aviation Authority  
**Safety Notice**  
Number: SN-2025/004



Issued: 6 March 2025

## UAS Software and Firmware Updates

**This Safety Notice contains information that is for guidance and/or awareness.**

Recipients are asked to ensure that this Information Notice is copied to all members of their staff who may have an interest in the information (including any 'in-house' or contracted maintenance organisations and relevant outside contractors).

Applicability:	
<b>Aerodromes:</b>	Not primarily affected
<b>Air Traffic:</b>	Not primarily affected
<b>Airspace:</b>	Not primarily affected
<b>Airworthiness:</b>	Not primarily affected
<b>UAS Operators:</b>	All UAS Operators
<b>Remote Pilots:</b>	All Remote Pilots

### 1 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this safety notice is to highlight the responsibility of a UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) operator and remote pilot to ensure that software and firmware updates are carried out to UAS when required by the manufacturer or by published maintenance procedures adopted and accepted by the operator.

### 2. Scope

2.1 The CAA are aware of loss-of-control events in which improper handling of software and/or firmware updates may have been a contributing factor to the event.

2.2 This Safety Notice recommends to UAS operators and remote pilots to flight test the unmanned aircraft after any update or modification.

### 3. Regulatory Requirements

#### 3.1 Specific Category

3.1.1 Operators in the Specific Category are reminded of their responsibilities under UAS.SPEC.050 (1)(h)(i), "*as a minimum, define maintenance instructions and employ adequately trained and qualified maintenance staff.*" Remote pilots in the Specific Category are reminded of their

3.1.2 responsibilities under UAS.SPEC.060 (1)(c) - Responsibilities of the remote pilot. "be familiar with manufacturer's instructions provided by the manufacturer of the UAS."

### **3.2 Open Category**

3.2.1 Remote pilots in the Open Category are reminded of their responsibilities under UAS.OPEN.060(2)(e) - Responsibilities of the remote pilot. "*operate the UAS in accordance with manufacturer's instructions provided by the manufacturer, including any applicable limitations.*"

### **4 Queries**

4.1 Any queries or requests for further guidance as a result of this communication should be addressed to [UAVenquiries@caa.co.uk](mailto:UAVenquiries@caa.co.uk).

### **5 Cancellation**

5.1 This Safety Notice will remain in force until further notice.