

OPERATING DIRECTIVE

Aviation Authority

Number:   D343.00.08  

Effective:   03/09/16  

Revised:   03/24/17  

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SUBJECT: Operation of Unmanned Aircraft  
Systems within the Airspace of  
Tampa International and  
General Aviation Airports

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**PURPOSE:** To establish procedures for the operation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at Tampa International, Tampa Executive, Peter O. Knight and Plant City Airports. For the purpose of this Operating Directive, Tampa International, Tampa Executive, Peter O. Knight, and Plant City shall be referred to as Airports.

**GENERAL:** UAS operations should be conducted in accordance with Public Law 112-95, Title III, Subtitle B, FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 and Advisory Circular, No. 91-57A, Model Aircraft Operating Standards.

A. Requirements for Model UAS Operations:

1. When flown within 5 miles of an Airport, the operator of the aircraft will provide the Authority and the Airport air traffic control tower (ATCT) (when an ATCT is located at the Airport) with prior notice of the operation. Model aircraft operators flying from a permanent location within 5 miles of an Airport should establish a mutually-agreed upon operating procedure with the Authority and the Airport ATCT (when an ATCT is located at the Airport).
2. Must be flown within visual line of sight of the person operating the aircraft.
3. Must be flown strictly for hobby or recreational use.
4. Must be flown below 400 feet and remain clear of surrounding obstacles.
5. Must not be flown near or over people or a stadium.
6. Must not be flown carelessly or recklessly.
7. Must not be flown in Prohibited Areas, Temporary Flight Restrictions or Special Flight Rule Areas without specific authorization.

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8. Must be greater than 0.55 pounds but not more than 55 pounds unless otherwise certified through a design, construction, inspection, flight test, and operational safety program administered by a community-based organization.
9. Must be operated in accordance with a community-based set of safety guidelines and within the programming of a nationwide community-based organization.
10. Must be operated in a manner that does not interfere with and gives way to any manned aircraft.

B. Requirements for Commercial (Civil) UAS Operations:

1. Must have a Certificate of Authorization from the Federal Aviation Administration or operate under Part 107.
2. Must contact the Airport ATCT, if applicable, prior to use.

**PROCEDURES:** The Operations Department will evaluate a UAS operation for safety and will make a record of such operation.

1. UAS operators shall notify the Airport and ATCT (if applicable).
2. The duty Airport Operations Manager (AOM) shall review each notification received via email or by telephone.
3. If the UAS operation is suspected of being a hazard to air traffic or violates the requirements for a UAS operation, as set out above, the AOM shall:
  - a. Confer with ATCT; and
  - b. Contact the registered owner and advise the operator to select another location.

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4. If the registered owner is operating the UAS in an area where a safety concern exists, the AOM should contact local law enforcement.
5. The Operations Department will record all UAS notifications in the UAS operations Notification Log, which will be used to track trends and common locations of UAS operations.

APPROVED: Joe Lopano

DATE: 3/24/17