

Commercial UAV Expo Announced for October



SPAR Point Group recently announced that it will launch Commercial UAV Expo, to be held from 5-7 October 2015 at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, Nevada. As organisers of premier 3D technology events in North America, Europe and Asia, SPAR Point Group is well established in the data capture and imaging technology arena.

The organising company has been listening to its customers and watching the market for some time, said Lisa Murray, director. While it is well known that the unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) is a game-changing technology, the regulatory environment and concerns over safety have kept commercial growth to a minimum. Given the potential benefits of approved commercial UAV use and global market projections of USD12 billion for commercial UAVs over the next decade, the time is right to launch this event.

Topcon's director of geospatial sales, Dave Henderson, said that moving forward, it is vital that the industry has an event dedicated to commercial UAV use. SPAR Point Group are uniquely qualified to host such an event given their history and expertise delivering top notch business and technology events for 3D precision measurement and imaging. They have already established relationships with providers and potential users in key market sectors eager to integrate UAV systems, he continued.

Lisa Murray is excited to connect the UAV community with potential customers in surveying and mapping, civil infrastructure, mining, construction, process, power and utilities, precision agriculture, law enforcement, security and emergency response. She said that these are natural markets for UAVs, and ones in which the company has established contacts. Seasoned professionals in aerial, mobile and terrestrial data capture technology are particularly interested in the business benefits UAVs provide, including potential cost savings, ease of use, immediacy of data delivery and increased accessibility.

Close to the heart of the sector

Commercial UAV Expo will feature an exhibit hall of UAV manufacturers, component and sensor manufacturers, software providers and service companies. Organisers expect upwards of 1000 attendees and 80 exhibits in 2015. Las Vegas was selected for proximity to key players on the West Coast and an affordable and accessible location for the entire market. A two-day conference programme will feature programming tracks including commercial applications, hardware and software options, cost considerations, the regulatory environment and data management and integration.

In speaking with providers in the UAV sector, it is clear an event focused on industries suited to small UAVs is needed, said Murray. While the overall UAV sector is currently dominated by defence and military applications, it is hard to imagine any industry that will not be affected by UAV adoption. Customers rely on technology events to deliver the latest innovations on the market. They want to see what's new and what's next. Clearly, what's next is the UAV, and the organising team is excited to showcase this next wave of innovation at Commercial UAV Expo in October, she concluded.