

Drone Voice Navigation with what3words and DXC Technology



DXC Technology, an innovation company that bridges the gap between technology and business, has built software that integrates Amazon's Alexa to allow drone operators to fly UAVs using voice commands.

While some commands were easy enough to be recognised by Alexa, like 'go left', 'fly north' or 'go up', sending drones to a specific place is less straight-forward. Precision is important when putting out a forest fire or flying to a delivery landing spot, but street addresses, when available, aren't specific enough for this, whereas GPS coordinates are difficult to remember and easy to mix up.

To get around this issue, [DXC integrated what3words to their program](#) so people can use 3 word addresses to send their drones to exact 3m x 3m squares anywhere in the world. 3 word addresses are combinations of dictionary words which are recognised by Alexa with 97% accuracy. They are very precise, easy to remember, and very simple to input.

"what3words enabled me to fly my drone in a way that GPS couldn't allow", said Philip Matheson from DXC Labs, "I was using just 3 words to send my drone to a precise location."

An example of this, [///public.warns.artist](#) will take your drone straight to a shipwreck off the coast of Melbourne, Australia. For drone operators, this means no more fiddling with controllers, flying drones in circles and typing in GPS coordinates. Firefighters can put out fires that are inaccessible by road, security services can patrol precise routes from a distance, and delivery services can send drones to an exact landing pad in a customer's yard.