COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE, & TECHNOLOGY

CSU California Unmanned Aerial Systems Competition (C-UASC) at Mojave Air & Space Port
C-UASC FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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C-UASC FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1. Does a pilot need a Pilot license such as Part 107? The Indemnification asks if the pilot has an FAA pilot license. They have 'TRUST' certifications. Will it be enough?

A1. The Mojave Air & Space Port needs someone that is 107 licensed to be monitoring all the flights and activities, not necessarily each individual student needs to be licensed. Our baseline plan will be that each team needs to have a pilot who has a license to comply with FAA Part 107 (Remote Pilot Certificate). Become a Drone Pilot | Federal Aviation Administration (faa.gov) . Please contact us directly if you have any additional questions. [see also Q-10 below.]

Q2. In the rules and regulations, it is has been mentioned that there will be points for both piloted as well as autonomous flight. For the piloted flight, the pilot has to qualify certain criteria as mentioned in the rules. My doubt is that will there be a pilot provided to us by the organizers if we do not have a well-qualified pilot in our team?

A2. This question is similar to Q1. Each team must provide its own pilots. Each team must comply with government regulations FAA Part 107. In most cases, we expect the team pilots will qualify under the Recreational UAS Safety Test, which can be done online. The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) | Federal Aviation Administration (faa.gov). This category generally applies for recreational or educational purposes. We will want to be sure everything is in order before teams travel to the competition. Once your team registers, we will begin to go through the checklist to help you confirm that you satisfy the requirements. [see also Q-10 below.]

Q3. Do Drones have to satisfy the FAA requirements for Remote Identification of Drones? Remote Identification of Drones | Federal Aviation Administration (faa.gov)

A3. Yes.

Q4. Are Part-time Community College Students eligible for the competition?

A4. Yes. The rules will be updated to allow for part-time as well as full-time students.

Q5. What is the target size at the drop location?

A5. As described in the rules, the target will be circular and approximately 5m in diameter.
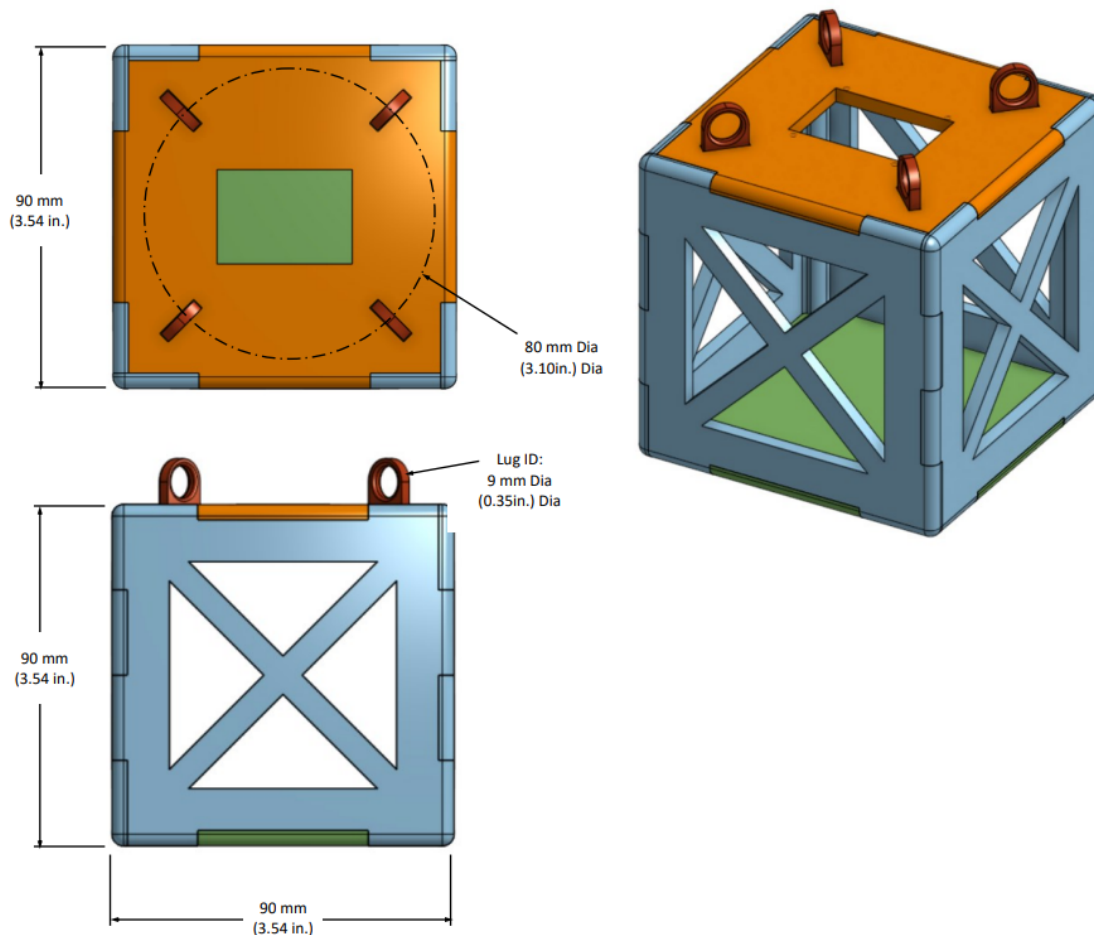
CSU California Unmanned Aerial Systems Competition (C-UASC) at Mojave Air & Space Port
C-UASC FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q6. Are there any points awarded for Obstacle Avoidance?

A6.   No, there are no points awarded for Obstacle Avoidance. On page 11 in the Rules, there is a mention of Obstacle Avoidance. While certainly each flight needs to avoid crashing, the competition will not create obstacles for the UAS to avoid and there will be no score kept for obstacle avoidance.

Q7. Is there a description of the package to be delivered?

A7. Yes, here it is:

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C-UASC FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q8. Is there a weight limit?

A8. Yes, we plan to operate under rules specified in FAA Part 107. As a result, "Small unmanned aircraft means an unmanned aircraft weighing less than 55 pounds on takeoff, including everything that is on board or otherwise attached to the aircraft."

Q9. What are requirements for provisions for loss of communications with the UAS during flight?

A9. Mojave Air & Space Port requires that each team must provide a plan for lost link, loss of control, or loss of communication with the UAS during flight.

Q-10. Is there an update to the FAA Part-107 pilot license/certificate requirement?

A-10. Yes. The competition will require each pilot on each team has a FAA Trust Certificate. The competition encourages each team to have a pilot with FAA Part-107 remote pilot certification. The Mojave Air & Space Port requires this certificate so that if a team does not have a certified pilot, the competition will provide one. The competition's certified pilot will provide direct supervision of the team's remote pilot during their flights.
So, in summary:
- Each Team MUST have pilots with FAA Trust Certificates
- If a team does not have a FAA Part-107 certified pilot, the competition will provide one to supervise the above-mentioned Trust-certified pilots during their flight.