US developing rules for drone hobbyists

Strike out!

At 100, Commercial Aviation Safer Than Ever: EASA

The United States Federal Aviation Administration’s UAS Integration Office and the Academy for Model Aeronautics worked together to write a draft set of safety regulations for drones. The FAA released the draft in June and is now in the process of submitting it to the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which will likely adopt it. EASA has issued draft regulations for drones, and the FAA is expected to do so in the coming months.

The FAA’s regulations will apply to drones that weigh less than 55 pounds and are intended for hobbyist use. The FAA is also considering regulations for drones that weigh between 55 and 200 pounds, and for drones that are intended for commercial use.

The FAA’s regulations will require drone operators to register their drones with the FAA, and to maintain a log of their flights. The FAA will also require drone operators to complete a training course and to pass an exam before they can operate a drone.

The FAA’s regulations will also require drone operators to comply with a number of safety rules, including:

- Keep their drones at least 200 feet away from people and property
- Operate their drones at a maximum altitude of 400 feet
- Operate their drones only during daylight hours
- Operate their drones only within visual line of sight
- Operate their drones only within 5 miles of their home

The FAA’s regulations will also require drone operators to report any accidents to the FAA.

The FAA’s regulations will be finalized in the coming months, and will likely be adopted by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).

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