

## **Sky-Futures Receives UK Civil Aviation Authority National Qualified Entity Status**

7<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Sky-Futures, the global leaders in Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Inspections in Oil and Gas, has been granted UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) National Qualified Entity (NQE) status. This certification awarded by the UK CAA, in addition to our 'Permission' to operate UAS held for over 4 years, further acknowledges Sky-Futures as a global leader in UAS safety, training and operations excellence.

NQE approval certifying the established Sky-Futures training program for small UAS Remote Pilots, is only the 3rd approval of its type in the UK, and allows Sky-Futures to perform the following training and approval functions:

1. Train and certify Sky-Futures Remote Pilots (S-FRP) for visual line of sight operations, regardless of previous experience, to a UK CAA recognised standard.
2. Allows Sky-Futures to make recommendations to the CAA for prospective UK Operators wishing to gain 'Permission' status to fly UAS visual line of sight for commercial purposes. The Sky-Futures training team must ensure that any external Operator has the following credentials before 'Permission' status can be recommended to the CAA:
  - a) A fit for purpose Operations Manual.
  - b) An unmanned aircraft system appropriate to the Operator's intended commercial activity with applicable safety features.
  - c) Proposed Remote Pilots have satisfactorily completed, to the required standard, the Sky-Futures ground school and flight training syllabus on their designated unmanned aircraft system.

Sky-Futures Training and Legislation Director Nick Rogers says, "We are delighted that the CAA NQE application was successful at the first attempt. This NQE approval granted by the CAA is only possible due to the thousands of hours of direct unmanned aircraft training and operational experience that the growing team at Sky-Futures possesses. This is in addition to our world class training facilities and instruction that future S-FRP and prospective UAS Operators will receive from the professional, highly qualified and dedicated Remote Pilot Instructors at Sky-Futures."

### **About Sky-Futures:**

Sky-Futures is a UK-based company providing UAV industrial inspection services to clients globally in the oil and gas sector with world-leading expertise in engineering inspection and reporting using HD video and thermal camera imagery. Sky-Futures has over 8500 hours' worth of flying experience, providing live flare, structural and under deck inspections onshore and offshore for oil and gas clients. Sky-Futures are

growing fast, a 'Hyper Growth Company' according to UK-backed Growth Accelerator, and are set to continue to grow as the world's leading UAV inspection operator in Oil and Gas. Sky-Futures already have over 26 clients globally, and work in over 10 countries across 5 regions of the world.

**Notes to Editors:**

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