



**SMALL UAV
COALITION**
*A Partnership for
Safety & Innovation*

NEWS RELEASE

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Coalition Comments on FAA UAS Registration Task Force Recommendations

Applauds Report and Recommends Additional Considerations

WASHINGTON, DC – NOVEMBER 23, 2015 – The Small UAV Coalition applauds the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Task Force’s completion of its Final Report, which was released today. The Coalition supports a simple, web-based, digital registration system for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and systems (UAS) that does not subject small UAVs to the current FAA Aircraft Registry process. The Coalition also appreciates the hard work done by the Task Force members, many of whom represent Coalition companies, to complete the panel’s mission on time and with consensus on a comprehensive set of recommendations, most of which are supported in comments the Coalition filed last week with the Task Force.

The Coalition takes issue, however, with the Task Force’s recommendation for a registration threshold of 250 grams. As the Coalition explained in its comments to the Task Force, a weight threshold of 1 kilogram is consistent with other countries’ registration and similar safety requirements. It also is a reasonable, pragmatic threshold well below the suggested weight limit for micro UAVs, which pose the least risk to persons on the ground.

The Coalition also believes that extending the registration requirement to UAS over 250 grams that could reasonably be considered toys could undermine the credibility of the process and detract from the FAA’s mission of using the registration requirement to promote safety, education and accountability.

The Coalition also urges the Administrator to include a provision in the interim final rule that preempts state and local small UAS registration requirements. Consumers will be more likely to accept the FAA registration requirement if they are required to register only with the FAA and not any state or local government, which have no authority to govern or regulate the operation of aircraft, whether manned or unmanned, in the National Airspace System. Moreover, duplicative state and local registration requirements would not be in line with the Task Force’s suggestion of a simple, free, and easy registration process.

For more information on the Small UAV Coalition, please visit www.smalluavcoalition.org, contact press@smalluavcoalition.org, or follow @smallUAVs on Twitter.

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