



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

NEWS RELEASE

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Small UAV Coalition Congratulates Secretary Chao and First UAS Integration Pilot Program Selections

**Program Will Demonstrate Immense Potential of Commercial UAS Technology and
Accelerate Integration and Expanded Operations**

WASHINGTON, DC – May 9, 2018 – Today, Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao announced the first applicants selected to participate in the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Integration Pilot Program (IPP). The IPP will enable and accelerate expanded commercial UAS operations, including those beyond the visual line of sight, over people, and carrying property, as well as provide opportunities to further develop important safety and security technologies like remote identification and tracking and unmanned traffic management (UTM) that will expedite the full commercialization of UAS.

The Small UAV Coalition congratulates the President and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Secretary Chao, and those selected for reaching another major milestone in the evolution of the program. The Coalition is pleased that UAS IPP has moved forward so quickly since it was first established by the President just a few months ago. The pace is emblematic of the urgency around developing a regulatory framework that will enable the safe integration of UAS into the national airspace and allow the United States to keep pace with other countries that are increasingly moving beyond pilot programs to ubiquity and integration.

The Coalition also appreciates that Secretary Chao has selected more than the minimum of five required applicants and is hopeful that the Department will select as many additional participants as possible during the lifecycle of the program, particularly since one of the main objectives of the IPP is to collect data that will inform the development of future and much needed UAS regulations.

As IPP moves forward, the Coalition believes it will be most effective if the Department implements standardized data reporting and identifies desired outcomes and what forms of data will be the most useful to integration efforts. The Coalition stands ready to work with the Department, FAA, White House, and all other stakeholders to support the program's success.

For more information on the Small UAV Coalition, please visit www.smalluavcoalition.org, contact press@smalluavcoalition.org, or follow [@smallUAVs](https://twitter.com/smallUAVs) on Twitter.

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