THALES

Thales UK Drone Activity

Drone Industry Action Group (DIAG)

October 2020

Neil Watson Strategy & Marketing Thales UK



Thales in the UK



WE EMPLOY AROUND 65,000 PEOPLE
ACROSS 56 COUNTRIES WITH ANNUAL
REVENUES OF OVER £14BN.



Wotchkeeper Unmanned Air System

In the UK, Thales employs over 6,500 people, including 4,500 highly-skilled engineers, across 10 key sites.

We make a significant contribution to the UK economy exporting over £560m in 2017.

Each year we invest over £575m in our UK supply chain, working with more than 2,000 UK companies.

The economic value add of the Thales UK workforce is approximately three times higher than the UK average.













2020 Project & Infrastructure Development



Future Flight Challenge (Airspace of the Future) collaborative systems-of-systems project to enable routine drone services in a safe integrated environment on a regional and national basis validated by business cases, simulation, demonstration & stakeholder engagement



ESA Navigation Innovation and Support Programme (NAVISP) a Thales led collaborative research project to determine if non space based (GNSS) assets can deliver accurate Position, Navigation and Timing (PNT) enabling autonomous BVLOS & certifiable drone ops.



National BVLOS Experimentation
Centre (NBEC) established under CAA
Innovation Sandbox as scalable &
configurable airspace with ground
infrastructure extending 16km from
Cranfield ATZ into proximate airspace,
includes conventional ATC & novel
drone surveillance capabilities



Digital Aviation Research and Technology Centre (DARTeC) CWE opens in late 2020; focus on five aviation research challenges including drone airspace integration and connected systems research (ground wireless connectivity and satellite comms)



Thales UK Drone Initiatives – Examples



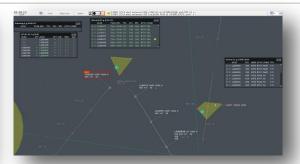
Thales ECOSystem UTM (UK Channel)

Digital cloud-based platform incorporating services for low altitude airspace management and efficient operations

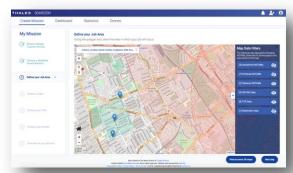
Airspace Access: providing automated flight notification /authorisation to drone users

Airspace Monitoring: monitoring the presence of drone in the low altitude airspace and ensuring there are no conflicts with other airspace users

Airspace Management: setting up flight paths for drones



TopSky-ATC
Integration of drone operations into traditional controlled airspace/systems



SOARIZON

Mission & fleet management tools to efficiently plan, assure and deliver, drone missions



Aveillant Gamekeeper 3D Radar
Drone Traffic Management & C-UAS
Machine learning for discrimination



Drone Secure Communications Module
Secure connectivity – encrypted signature; GPS
Rx; IoT Module & embedded e-SIM

