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For Immediate Release

THE FAA RELEASES PART 107 RULES, EXPANDING HAAG'S ABILITY TO USE UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

Houston, TX—On June 21, the Federal Aviation Administration released “Part 107”, a new set of rules to govern the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems or drones by commercial entities. Prior to these rules any commercial entity flying a UAS, including engineers, surveyors, real estate agents, insurance adjusters, photographers, etc. had to have a pilot’s license and a FAA 333 permit. These updated regulations relax many of the restrictions currently in place for commercial operators, allowing for more cost effective and simpler operations to get a UAS in the air, legally.

These new, less strict rules benefit engineering firms like Haag Engineering Co. and our clients by making it easier to utilize small unmanned aircraft systems (UAS)—commonly called “drones” —for a variety of aerial mapping and data collection applications. Haag was granted a Section 333 exemption by the FAA in July 2015.

“The new Part 107 rules will help us better utilize UAS’ on our client’s behalf,” said Kevin Kianka, Haag’s Director of BIM/Modeling Program. “UAS technology allows us to obtain or preserve key information from potentially dangerous or difficult to access sites.”



Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) gather information from difficult or dangerous sites.

The new rules keep many of the existing limitations to UAS Operations, including daylight operations only, flight altitudes below 400 feet, and a maximum UAS weight of 55 pounds. In addition there is a new limitation setting a maximum UAS speed of 100 miles per hour. Removed is the requirement for a Visual Observer and a 500 foot buffer to persons, structures and vehicles. The limitation for a buffer has been replaced with a limitation that the UAS may not fly directly over persons not directly participating in the operation. In addition operations in Class G airspace are allowed without Air Traffic Control Approval (ATC), however operations in Class B, C, D, and E airspace require ATC permission.

The requirements for Pilots in Command (PIC) of the UAS have also been relaxed. Previously the PIC needed a FAA issued Pilots license (Sport or higher). The new requirements allow individuals to obtain a remote pilot airman certificate through an initial aeronautical test (at an FAA facility) or being vetted by the TSA and being at least 16 years old. Additionally, Pilots with FAA licenses (Sport or higher) may obtain a remote pilot certificate. As of today, the course has not been deployed, but expect it to be released sometime in July with a heavy attendance for the first several months.



The Part 107 regulations will go into place in August, 60 days after its publication in the Federal Register, opening the skies for many individuals and organizations during that time.

See the FAA announcement and Part 107 Rules here:

http://www.faa.gov/news/press_releases/news_story.cfm?newsId=20515

Contact Haag at 281-313-9700 to discuss using UAS technology on your project.

About Haag 3D Solutions

Haag 3D Solutions, LLC, a division of Haag Engineering Co., provides professional 3D geospatial solutions for all types of design and construction projects. Haag 3D Solutions is a technology and services company specializing in the application of 3D imaging and BIM technologies delivering highly accurate and reliable as built documentation for both public and private sector clients. Having completed hundreds of Documentation and BIM assignments throughout North America, the Haag 3D Solutions team has gained a uniquely practical familiarity with a variety of 3D Imaging technologies and processes and offers real solutions to a wide variety of measurement and physical documentation tasks.

About Haag

Haag Engineering Co. began in 1924 as a failure and damage consulting firm. Today, Haag is an employee-owned, multi-faceted forensic engineering and consulting company. Our growth results directly from our long-standing commitment to quality while expanding our technical knowledge and services. *Haag Engineering* performs forensic engineering throughout the world in the fields of civil, structural, architectural, electrical, and mechanical engineering. *Haag Research/Testing* operates a state-of-the-art laboratory which specializes in material and product testing. *Haag Education* presents our expert engineers' scientifically-based approach to damage assessment in our publications and tools, and live and online seminars. *Haag Construction Consulting* assists our clients with onsite damage assessments, litigation support, clerk of works, and restoration consulting following a loss. Please visit www.HaagGlobal.com for more information.

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