

PRESS RELEASE

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Drone Technology Experts Form Task Group to Establish Drone Show Safety Standards

In response to recent safety incidents, drone technology leaders call on industry to join forces to develop formal technical standards for drone shows.

AUSTIN TX, USA – A new task group has been formed by ASTM International to create safety standards for drone show operations, focusing on technical requirements, procedures, and risk management. Chaired by Nils Thorjussen of Verge Aero, the group invites broad industry participation to support the growth of the emerging drone show sector.

Drone shows have come a long way in just a few years. Pioneering work undertaken in laboratories has led to the creation of technologies to deploy massive, record-setting shows worldwide. But not all systems are created equally, with significant differences in sophistication and safety features. Likewise, some operators are far more professional and detail-oriented than others. Intense price competition in the market has made many people focus on cost and not safety.

It's time for the drone show industry to maximize safety by embracing well-established practices and standards developed over the last century in manned aviation. There's no need to reinvent the wheel; the necessary technologies and procedures already exist.

ASTM International, a not-for-profit global leader in the development and delivery of voluntary consensus standards, has formed a task group to develop standards for drone show operations. Chaired by Nils Thorjussen, Executive Chairman and co-founder of Verge Aero, the task group has the support and participation of the FAA.

The task group is open to all interested parties and broad industry participation is encouraged to help the nascent drone show industry mature and thrive.

Many people have reached out to Verge Aero seeking to understand how drone shows work, what increases risk, and how to make them safer. In response, the company has recently

released [The Essential Guide to Drone Show Safety](#) to help educate the public and stakeholders. It identifies five essential components to show safety:

- Navigation Redundancy
- Appropriate and Up-to-Date Software
- Multiple and Independent Geofence Systems
- Reliable, Long-Range Communication
- Training and Safety Management

By adhering to these principles, the drone shows will continue to experience rapid growth and be enjoyed by millions of people worldwide. The white paper is available for view or download on Verge Aero's website.

Verge Aero is calling on the industry to work with ASTM and other standards organizations to implement robust safety standards for drone show systems. Interested parties should contact the company at standards@vergeaero.com for further information.

Verge Aero is a leading system developer and provider in the drone show industry. Formed in 2016, the company is recognized globally by airspace authorities, including the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA). The fully integrated Verge Aero system is used by professional production teams around the world. Visit verge.aero/safety to learn more about Verge Aero's safety commitment.