

SAFIR consortium chosen to carry out U-space drone demonstrations in Belgium

ANTWERP - *The SAFIR consortium, a group of 13 public and private organisations, has been selected by Single European Sky ATM Research Joint Undertaking (SESAR JU) to demonstrate integrated Drone Traffic Management for a broad range of drone operations in Belgium. The goal of the SAFIR project is to contribute to the EU regulatory process for drones and drive forward the deployment of interoperable, harmonised and standardised drone services across Europe.*

The SAFIR consortium (Safe and Flexible Integration of Initial U-space Services in a Real Environment) consists of the following organisations: Unifly, Amazon Prime Air, Belgocontrol, DronePort, Proximus, the Port of Antwerp, Helicus, SABCA, Elia, High Eye, C-Astral, Tekever and Aveillant.



SAFIR

SAFIR will carry out multiple studies and demonstrations for drone operations that are viable, robust and ready-to-implement throughout Europe. These demonstrations will include surveillance flights (including container terminal inspection, oil spill inspection) in the Port of Antwerp, parcel delivery, medical inter-hospital transport, high voltage line mapping and pylon inspection. Further the use of telecommunication network technology for data communication with both manned aircraft and other unmanned aircraft will be assessed. Finally, a radar system will be deployed capable of monitoring cooperative and non-cooperative drones.

SABCA

SABCA's role in the project is to design, develop and manufacture a multirotor drone capable of medical inter-hospital transport in urban environments. SABCA's UAS Business Director, Steven Wille, said: "We are delighted to be a key player in this demonstration project. It will allow us to develop, test and showcase the next generation drone technology based on aerospace standards. By working together with industry, government and academia, we will be able to mitigate risks and solve mobility issues.

About SABCA

SABCA is a key Belgian aerospace company founded in 1920. It has built an extensive and varied know-how based on its 95+ years of experience in designing, building, maintaining, and upgrading large and complex elements for aircraft and space launchers. Its customers and partners are key players in the global aerospace market. SABCA offers a complete range of services to the UAS market such as platform design and manufacturing, ground- and flight testing, UAS qualification and certification, maintenance & payload integration

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