

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE AUSTRALIAN TRANSPORT SAFETY
BUREAU
AND
AUSTRALIAN CERTIFIED UNMANNED
AERIAL VEHICLE OPERATORS

1 PARTIES

1.1 The Australian Transport Safety Bureau: hereafter referred to as the ATSB;

The ATSB is an independent statutory agency of the Australian Government. The ATSB's purpose is to improve the safety of aviation, rail and marine transport through independent investigations of transport accidents and other safety occurrences under the *Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003* (TSI Act); data recording, analysis and research; and fostering safety awareness, knowledge and action

AND

1.2 The Australian Certified Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Operators Inc.: hereafter referred to as ACUO;

ACUO is an industry body for the unmanned sector of aviation in Australia. ACUO has the largest membership of certified unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) operators in Australia. The object of ACUO is to provide guidance to commercial unmanned aviation operators, improve industry safety standards, promote safe and responsible flight activities, advise on UAV related issues and represent the industry's interests through engagement with the government regulator.

2 PURPOSE

2.1 The parties recognise that while they each have separate and independent roles in the transport industry, they jointly acknowledge the benefits that can be achieved for improving transport safety through a constructive and cooperative relationship between the two organisations.

2.2 Recognising this shared interest in improving transport safety, the purpose of this MoU is to outline a framework and the principles through which the safety expertise and resources of both parties can be coordinated. This action would enhance safety outcomes arising from:

- (a) transport safety education, promotion and research
- (b) facilitating the sharing of safety information
- (b) the transport industry's use of the REPCON confidential reporting scheme
- (c) investigations under the TSI Act.

- 2.3 Nothing in this MoU is, of itself, intended to:
- (a) create any binding rights, powers, duties, liabilities or obligations of the parties
 - (b) waive, fetter or affect the rights, powers, duties, liabilities or obligations of the parties.

3 MEETINGS

- 3.1 The parties recognise the benefits of remaining in regular contact. They will plan to meet formally to discuss matters related to this MOU.
- 3.2 The parties will consider appropriate and reasonable requests from each other to provide a meeting room for delegations to discuss transport safety matters.

4 TRANSPORT SAFETY EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

- 4.1 Both parties acknowledge the importance of education in improving transport safety. Where there is enhanced safety benefit, both parties will consider the opportunities to collaborate in the development and promotion of safety education material.
- 4.2 The ATSB encourages ACUO and its members to put forward proposals to the ATSB to enhance the dissemination of safety information from the ATSB's work products. ACUO will proactively support the dissemination of ATSB safety information relevant to its members.
- 4.3 ACUO will promote the ATSB's SafetyWatch priorities relevant to its members.

5 MANDATORY REPORTING

- 5.1 ACUO will promote to its members their obligations, and their employer's obligations, under the TSI Act for the mandatory reporting of accidents and incidents.

6 REPCON CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING SCHEME

- 6.1 REPCON provides for the confidential reporting of aviation, marine and rail safety concerns and uses information from the reports to identify unsafe procedures, practices or conditions in order to prevent or lessen the likelihood of future transport accidents and incidents. The REPCON scheme is

administered by the ATSB under the Transport Safety Investigation (Voluntary and Confidential Reporting Scheme) Regulation 2012.

- 6.2 Both parties affirm their support for working cooperatively to ensure that best use is made of the REPCON scheme by the industry to improve transport safety while protecting confidentiality of individuals associated with reports. ACUO will promote the use of REPCON by its members.

7 INVESTIGATIONS UNDER THE TSI ACT

- 7.1 If ACUO has members with skills and expertise relevant to ATSB investigations, the ATSB may, where it is in the best interests of an investigation, seek subject matter expertise from the individual. The ATSB may access the individual through its Subject Matter Expertise register or through other means when the individual is not listed on the register. While maintaining its independence, the ATSB will liaise, where appropriate, with ACUO and the individual's employer to determine the skills and expertise that can be provided.
- 7.2 If a member of ACUO is required by the ATSB to be interviewed for an investigation, consistent with ATSB policy, the individual will be afforded the opportunity to have a representative present. Where the individual nominates a representative from ACUO the ATSB will accommodate ACUO in providing appropriate support.

8 TRAINING

- 8.1 The parties will seek to provide each other with information about training opportunities that they are aware would benefit each other in fulfilling the expectations under this MOU.
- 8.2 Subject to operational priorities and available resourcing, the parties will look for opportunities to collaborate to minimise the costs, as is reasonable, for each party to access the training.

9 POINTS OF CONTACT

- 8.1 The ATSB contact for matters concerning this MoU is the Manager, Legal and Governance (see the Schedule of Contacts for contact details).
- 8.2 The ACUO contact for matters concerning this MoU is the President of ACUO (see the Schedule of Contacts for contact details).

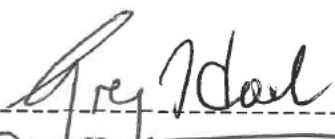
10 COMMENCEMENT, VARIATION AND TERMINATION OF THE MOU

- 10.1 This MoU will come into effect upon signing.
- 10.2 The Parties will consult on any matters arising from the MoU to resolve any issues.
- 10.3 Either party may terminate this MoU by seven days' notice in writing to the other party.

11 SIGNATORIES

- 11.1 Signed and dated 18 October 2018.

SIGNED for and on behalf of the
Australian Transport Safety Bureau by



Mr Gregory Hood
Chief Commissioner
Australian Transport Safety Bureau

SIGNED for and on behalf of the
Australian Certified Unmanned Aerial
Vehicle Operators Inc. by



Joe Urli
President
The Australian Certified Unmanned Aerial
Vehicle Operators Inc.

SCHEDULE OF CONTACTS

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau

[Redacted]

Manager, Legal and Governance

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Australian Certified Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Operators Inc.

Joe Urli

President

[Redacted]

[Redacted]