Drones: A Transportation Industry Disruptor

Rami Asfahani, PE, RPIC Ciorba Group, Inc.

Structures Engineer II Innovation & Technology Group



Ciorba Innovation & Technology Group

Dedicated to lead Ciorba in advanced technology Solutions and help push the Civil Eng. Industry forward. Some of **InnoTech Group** main focus for 2019 / 2020

- Automation in Design
- Drone technology
- Asset Management
- Online Solutions
- Technological solutions in bridge inspection

TALKING POINTS

The topics we will be addressing within the presentation.

- 1. History
- 2. Part 107
- 3. Drone Use
- 4. Drone Features
- 5. Data Processing
- 6. DOTs & Drones
- 7. Bonus Section

They LOVE their acronyms...

SUAV small Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. **SUAS** small Unmanned Aerial System. **FAA** Federal Aviation Administration. LAANC Low Altitude Authorization And Notification Capability.

1. History How it all started and when did it boom.

This section is perfect for war heros and Air Force lovers.

HISTORY TIMELINE SUMMARY

1782 Montgolfier brothers in France use unmanned balloons		1966 Lightning bugs used in wars including Vietnam		1991 At least one UAV was airborne at all times in the Gulf war		2014 Popularity explosion. Military sUAV budget at \$24 Bn
	1848 Austria used bombs unmanned balloons against Venice		1982 Israel and American military use the Pior	heer	• 2007 The reaper was used in combat missions in Irag and	
					Afghanistan	



Joseph-Michel and Jacques-Etienne Montgolfier (Montgolfier brothers) in France used unmanned balloons.

- **Pioneer developers** of the hot-air balloon and conducted the first untethered flights.
- Discovered that **heated air**, when collected inside a large lightweight paper or fabric bag, **cause the bag to rise into the air.**
- The brothers traveled to Paris and Versailles where they repeated the experiment with a larger balloon in 1783 by sending a sheep, a rooster, and a duck aloft as passengers.
- The balloon floated for about 8 minutes and landed safely about 2 miles from the launch site.

Source: Encyclopedia Britannica

ASCENSION EXÉCUTÉE PAR CHABLES DANS LA TRAIRIE DE NESLES, LE 1er DÉCEMBRE 1783



Бомбардировка с аэростата. "Воздушное торпедо" О. С. Костовича.

Austria used bombs unmanned balloons against Venice

- Very little information is preserved.
- Venice was under siege by the Austrians and bombed Venice using untethered balloons.
- The wind was blowing **9 out of 10** times from the sea towards the city.
- They were described as **"small Cloudlets"** since no one knew what they were.



Lightning bugs used in wars including Vietnam

- Within **30 seconds** the bug was able to detect and transmit to a nearby aircraft the following:
 - Vietnamese air missile tracking, acquisition and guidance signals.
 - The sequence in which those signals appeared during engagement.
 - The frequency and operating characteristics of the warhead's proximity fuze.
- It was the first of many intelligence breakthroughs the U.S. Air Force "drone reconnaissance" detachment achieved in Indochina.



At least one UAV was airborne at all times in the Gulf war

- The **First USA UAV war** was during the Gulf War.
- Since the Gulf war, there has **NOT** been a war without the use of UAV.
- Due to the success of using drones in the Gulf War, a fleet of drones were used in all wars afterwards.
- However, the push for drones was very rushed and it caused **a lot of civilian casualties** due to the lack of accuracy.



The reaper was used in combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan

- The British compared the 5-ton bird to a "mini A-10".
- Capable of striking enemy targets with **On**board weapons.
- Previous Air Force Chief of staff said that "[they have] taken these aircraft from [surveillance] to carrying out true hunter-killer missions."
- The drone was remotely operated in **Creech Air Force Base, Nevada**.



Popularity explosion. Military sUAV budget at \$24 Bn

- Drones **started transitioning** from the military to commercial use.
- Started **entering the market** in the agricultural and industrial fields.
- **Boom** of all drones seen today.

2. Regulation - Part 107 What, Why, When, etc...

Get ready for a lot of quick information.

What is Part 107

The true definition is **14 CFR Part 107 of** the FAA **Regulations.**

Why Part 107

Part 107 pertains to **Commercial License** of small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS). When is Part 107 Needed

Simply put Except for Hobby use.

How to be Part 107 Licensed Pilot

Pass the Part 107 Exam.

What is Part 107 Exam

Is a 60 Multiple **Choice** exam focused on reading Aerial Maps & Safety.

Post Passing Part 107 Exam

License does not expire but you need to retake Part 107 exam every 24 Months.

Drones are to be registered before flight.

FAA approval is required for Classes A, B, C, D, & E air zone classifications.



FAA does NOT approve flights at Night Time.

FAA does NOT approve flights above People not involved in the flight.

FAA does NOT approve flights more than three statute miles of unaided visual site.

3. Drone Use It's more than just a cool toy.

Get ready for some cool photos taken via sUAVs.

AERIAL PHOTOS

- Simplest use of sUAVs.
- Used for proposals.

1

• Website / Social Media posts.

.....

EDUCATION

- Great use for educating students especially fresh graduates
- Paints a picture which cannot be captured but through drones.

SURVEYING PART 1

- Most difficult and most expensive use of drones in engineering.
- Extreme time saving solutions.

SURVEYING PART 2

- Accuracy up to 0.4 inches (1cm).
- Software advanced enough to calculate cut and fill areas.

BRIDGE INSPECTION

- Does NOT replace hands-on inspection.
- Direct inspection cost savings.

۶

• Reach inaccessible areas.

CONSTRUCTION

- Better workflow.
- Better Communication.
- Security Monitoring.
- Time Lapse Videos.

3D MODELING

- Create a 3D models from photos.
- Used for large structures (ex.Dams) inspection.

UTILITIES INSPECTION

- Windmills.
- Water reservoirs.
- Light Poles.

4. Drone Features\$\$ - \$\$\$.

But first, a quick montage

Drone Features DJI

- Great camera.
- Panoramic photos.
- Light and small.
- Drone and Controller are foldable.
- 2x Optical Zoom
- 4x Lossless Zoom
- 48MP Super resolution photos
- Crash detection and evasion



Drone Features PARROT

- 180° camera.
- 4K Video 21MP camera.
- Light and small.
- Drone is foldable.
- FPV Ready.
- Thermal Camera.



Features Example 360 VIEW

- Above Deck
 - <u>Website Link</u>
- Underside of Deck
 - <u>Website Link</u>
- Near Bridge
 - <u>Website Link</u>



Drone Features FIXED WINGS

- Take off and land Vertically.
- Up to 42MP camera.
- 0.4 in (1 cm) accuracy.
- Efficient & Precise
- Rugged & Reliable
- Multi-Purpose
 - 3D Point cloud
 - Digital surface model
 - 3D Mesh with texture
 - Index map





Drone Features SPECIAL

- Confined spaces
- 4K + thermal
- Replaceable cage
- Attachments sold separately
 - Professional Cameras
 - \circ Lidar



5. Data Processing 0100111001011.

What happens after all the videos and photos.

Data Processing PIX4D

PIXAD F

Pix4Dmapper

Photogrammetry software for professional drone mapping



Free mobile app to plan, fly and get optimized images for professional drone mapping



The fast mapping software for emergency response

Pix4Dbim

3D mapping software for earthworks, construction and infrastructure management



Field mapping and aerial crop analysis for digital farming



Pix4Dengine

Build the future of image-based reality capture with data-driven insights for your business

Data Processing PIX4D bim

FEATURES

- Cloud Processing
- Measure Areas, Distances & Elevations
- Calculate Volumes
- Generate Cross-Sections.
- Overlay Design Plan & Map
- Compare Over Time
- Annotate & Share



Data Processing PIX4D model

FEATURES

- Point Cloud Editing Tools
- Post-Processing model capabilities
- Measure and annotate
- Inspect the structure through the model.
- Export 3D mesh model.



Data Processing ContextCapture

ContextCapture

Create 3D models from simple photographs and/or point clouds

Gerpho photo aérienne

Data Processing ContextCapture

FEATURES

- Generate 3D CAD models
- Generate 2D and 3D GIS models
- Create scalable terrain models.
- Integrate positioning data (georeference models).



Data Processing DroneDeploy

Automated Flight

Our app will fly your DJI drone with your iOS or Android device.



Build Your Brand

Easily share data with clients using your own brand.



Process Maps Fast

Quickly process images into detailed maps and 3D models in the cloud.

Broad Compatibility

Export data in the formats your clients need.



Powerful Map Analysis

Make real-time measurements including distance, area and volume.

1

ROI & Customer Satisfaction

Drive productivity and customer happiness with 3x faster turnaround times.

Data Processing DroneDeploy

SOLUTIONS

- Construction
- Inspection
- Roofing
- Solar
- Drone Services



Data Processing Agisoft



Cloud-based software and data processing

No need to download and install any programs. Just log into Propeller on your browser and see all your survey data, analytics tools, calculators, Automatically filter your surveys to flatten machinery or view bare earth with a single click.



Compare your site to design or linework in 3D overlay

Upload design surfaces or linework to see how you're progressing towards the final grade. Intuitive tools, like Progress to Design View, show how far you need to go and survey-to-survey comparisons make assessing productivity straightforward.

Easy-to-use measurement and

analytics tools and templates

Measuring your site takes just a few clicks,

and on-screen calculators and analysis tools

make measuring volumes, surface areas, road grades, elevation, cross-sections, and cut/fill a

piece of cake.





Fast, simple terrain editing

Removing terrain inaccuracies or obstructions takes seconds, so you know your quantities are accurate. Ensure consistency by managing who makes edits and track any as they happen.



Your data in the file formats you need

Propeller isn't a data silo. You can import your data in geoTIFF, DXF, DWG, KML, and KMZ or export as JPEG, TIFF, DXF, or LAZ files and always have the formats you need for existing workflows.



Quick, accurate data turnaround

Your surveys are processed, QA'd by our data gurus, and ready to view in 24 hours.

Data Processing Agisoft Photoscan

FEATURES

- Ground control points: high accuracy surveying
- Panorama stitching
- Network processing (multiple nodes for huge data sets processing).
- Python scripts: customize processing workflow



6. DOTs & Drones Get ready for some numbers.

It's not an engineering oriented presentation without a few numbers.

A 2019 survey conducted by **AASHTO officials indicates** that 36 state DOTs are funding centers / programs to operate drones.

10 state DOTs polled by AASHTO have hired staff to manage drone operations with 279 FAA certified drone pilots.

3 state DOTs are participating in the FAA's **Integration Pilot Program to** fly beyond visual line of site, at night, and over people.

7. Bonus Section *"IT. JUST. GOT. INTERESTING!"*

Final thoughts, ideas, and bonus content.



FUN FACTS

Mail delivery with drones. 09.19.2019

- After thousands of successful attempts in Australia, FAA started a drone delivery pilot program in Christiansburg SouthWest Virginia.
- Drones are 10lbs and travel more than 70mph with up to 3lbs packages carried.
- Can **only** fly during the day and out of the rain and transit over people.



FUN FACTS

sUAV is a crucial part of the military

- Small Unmanned Aircraft
 Vehicles are an integral part of the US and Israeli military forces.
- The army is one of the **major leaders** in drone development and drone use.

FAA Approval System

Created LAANC System as a collaboration between FAA and the Industry.

LAANC = Low Altitude Authorization And Notification Capability



KittyHawk Mobile App

- Available on iOS and Android.
- FAA approved LAANC UAS service supplier.
- Team Management.
- Company who helped FAA create the B4UFLY app.



B4UFLY

Mobile App

- Clear "status" indicator whether it's safe to fly or not.
- Information about airspace types, critical areas, restricted areas, etc....
- Links to other FAA drone resources.

UNDERWATER

DRONES

- Great 4K UHD camera.
- Up to 4000 LED Lumens.
- Up to 6 degrees of freedom motion.
- Up to 4 Hours battery.
- Able to adjust pitch angle to +/- 45 degrees.
- Sonar add-on capability.



SUMMARY Of Everything.

Well, as much as possible.

SUMMARY

Do NOT fly over people, at night, or out of visual site.

Some of **Drone Uses**

- Aerial Photos.
- Education.
- Surveying.
- Bridge Inspection.
- Construction.
- Utilities Inspection.

SUMMARY

Fly ONLY in class G or after FAA approval. LAANC system is almost automatic.

Some of **Data Processing**

- PIX4D.
- ContextCapture.
- DroneDeploy.
- Agisoft.

SUMMARY

Some Mobile Apps are KittyHawk and B4UFLY.

Some of **Drone Features**

- 180 degrees camera rotation.
- Thermal imaging.
- Crash detection & Collision deviation.
- FPV ready.
- 4x Lossless zoom.
- Up to 48 MP UHD photos.

In a word,

Drone Technology has Changed our typical methods.

THANK YOU