

Aeronautics Administrator Report

October 18, 2023



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National Counter UAS Center of Excellence (NcUCoE)

NcUCoE Center Announced at NDIA Future Forces Capabilities Conference in Huntsville, AL

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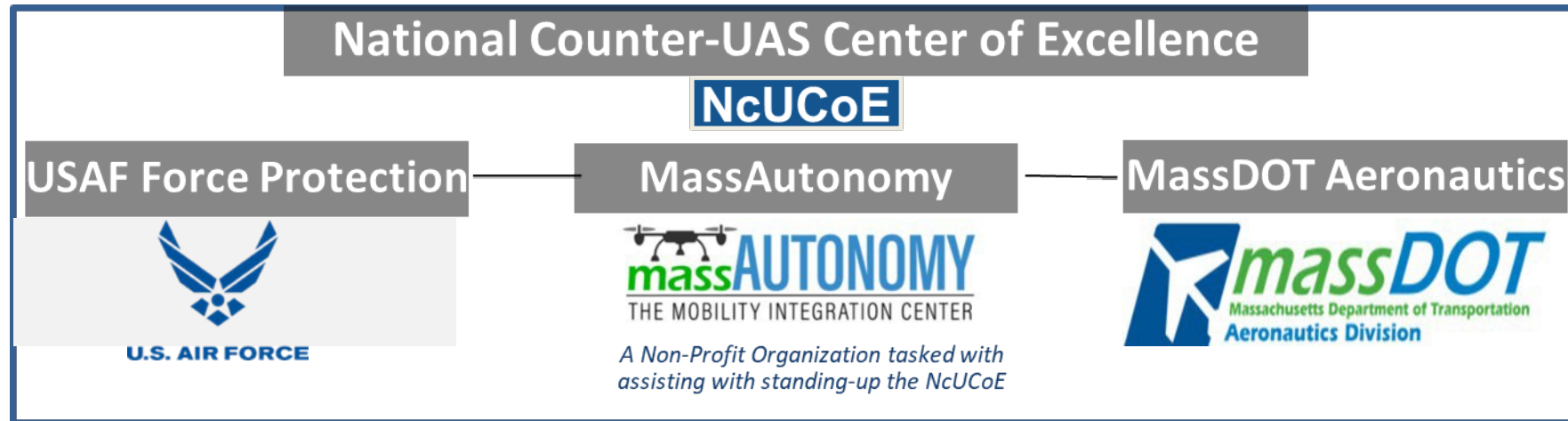
- The National Counter-Uncrewed Aircraft System Center of Excellence was announced at the National Defense Industrial Association annual Future Forces Capability Conference in Huntsville, AL on Sep 27, 2023
- A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the U.S. Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, Force Protection Division; MassAutonomy, a nonprofit organization; and MassDOT Aeronautics establishes the NcUCoE to help states and member organizations address the negligent or hostile use of drones
- In 2022, MassDOT provided \$2M in seed funding to the USDOT Volpe Center to work with MassAutonomy to formally establish the national center along with the USAF and MassDOT Aeronautics
- The NcUCoE will be based in MA and is expected to have satellite locations and provide operations and support in other states across the nation
- The National Center membership will be open to federal agencies, DoD, and other organizations with an airspace safety and security mandate

National Counter UAS Center of Excellence (NcUCoE)

NcUCoE Center Announced at NDIA Future Forces Capabilities Conference in Huntsville, AL

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- The National Counter-Uncrewed Aircraft System Center of Excellence Organization



- | <u>Federal Gov't</u> | <u>DoD</u> | <u>States</u> | <u>Other Qualifying Orgs¹</u> |
|--|---|---------------------------|---|
| •USDOT Volpe Center ✓
•Other Fed Agencies in-progress (e.g., DHS, FAA, Coast Guard) | •Other Services in-progress (Army, Navy, & Marines) | •Other States in-progress | •Organizations with an airspace safety & security mandate.
•e.g., Massport & PA NY&NJ, NFL, MLB, LEO |

Note 1: Non-industry, unbiased organizations with an airspace safety or security mandate

Members & Participants in Formation

FAA Airport Improvement Program FFY23 Grants Update

Massachusetts Airports Received \$54.1M in federal funding for public use airports

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- The FAA has issued Massachusetts Airports \$54.1M in grants for 24 Airport Improvement Program projects leveraging a total of \$78.7M from all funding sources. This figure excludes funding awarded to Massport airports for their grants
- The state match for the Airport improvement Program grants is \$2.8M
- The grants include the following projects:
 - Runway 10-28 reconstruction at Norwood (\$4.3M)
 - Apron Expansion at Nantucket (\$35.9M)
 - Taxiway B reconstruction at Westfield-Barnes (\$32.4M) including \$9.7M from the DOD and \$9.6M from the Massachusetts Military Task Force
 - One taxiway project at Martha's Vineyard and two hangar renovations projects at North Adams and Westover (\$1.9M)
 - Two obstruction removal projects at Chatham and Pittsfield, and three aeronautical studies at Beverly Chatham and Taunton (\$1.0M)
 - Two equipment purchase projects for aircraft firefighting vehicles at Nantucket and Hyannis (\$2.0M)
 - Two environmental assessments at Hyannis and Lawrence, two airport terminal studies at Martha's Vineyard and Provincetown and one airport master plan update at Gardner (\$1.2M)

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Meetings Underway

MassDOT is Meeting with Public Use Airports to Rollout FY25–FY29 Capital Improvement Plan

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- Each fall the Aeronautics Division, FAA, and 35 public use airports meet to discuss the capital needs for the Commonwealth's airports
- Capital Improvement meetings focus on addressing safety, environmental, and design standard deficiencies at each airport
- Identified needs are prioritized and programed into individual 5-year CIP Plans for the airports and then added to MassDOT's Statewide CIP for the 35 airports that Aeronautics oversees
- FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) eligible projects are scored under a National Priority Rating system and receive 90% federal funding. MassDOT and the airport each provide 5% of the eligible remaining project shares
- In FY2023, the CIP planning process resulted in \$54.1M in federal investment in MA airports – overseen by Aeronautics
- The annual CIP meetings commenced in September and will run through the end of October

National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO)

Annual Conference & Tradeshow Takes Place in Rogers Arkansas with a Focus on Innovation 7

- The theme for this year's convention was "Naturally Innovative" and focused on the opportunities that lie ahead for the aviation industry
- The conference enabled stakeholders to engage with industry partners on issues such as broader use of uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS), advanced air mobility (AAM) deployment and development of the next generation of alternatively powered aircraft and sustainable fuels
- Aeronautics Chief of Airport Engineering, Owen Silbaugh served on a panel of key States to speak about innovative approaches to airport construction projects
- State members met with FAA Regional Administrators in Roundtable sessions to discuss constrained funding and key industry challenges affecting airports in their states
- A joint NASAO and AASHTO meeting was conducted to discuss key industry issues including FAA Reauthorization, aviation education and workforce development, and the role of State and Local governments in preparing for new AAM technologies.
- Future AAM planning will include licensing, zoning, site approvals, airspace protection, economic development partnerships, public utilities, electrification and emergency response strategies

Thank You

