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Drone solutions vendor lauds Flagler County for ‘paving the way’ to enhance public safety by implementing ‘highways in the sky’

October 14, 2020 – Airspace Link, a provider of state and local government drone flight authorization and management solutions, in a business-to-business release issued today (Wednesday) complimented Flagler County’s Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Team for incorporating new capabilities into its internal operations for public safety.

“Flagler County is paving the way for the rest of the state of Florida to implement safe drone highways in the sky,” Lisa Peterson, VP of Business Development for Airspace Link, said in its release. “We are thrilled to see the immediate benefit our technology is providing like helping first responders with search and rescue missions.”

It noted that just last month, Flagler County used Airspace Link’s solution to create a public advisory for the successful search and rescue mission of a missing kayaker. The county issued the advisory during the early hours of the search, and the drone team deployed when search helicopters had to leave the area for refueling.

“(Because of) Airspace Link, we are in a better position to safely deploy our drone resources,” GIS Analyst and UAS Coordinator Matthew Adams is quoted in the release. “The ground-based risk assessment and the ability to create public advisories allows our pilots to have optimal situational awareness when deploying drones to an incident.”

Adams later clarified that the application absorbs Flagler County’s Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data, which allows drone pilots to have a better understanding of the location of the ground-based risks, such as schools, and population centers, as well as cell phone and radio towers.

Airspace Link provides an FAA-approved solution for Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC). At the end of September, it added another 133 airports, including Flagler Executive Airport, to this program, according to its release. Flagler County drone pilots no longer need to wait to get approval to fly in controlled airspace, as the AirHub for Pilot application can authorize them in seconds.

“In partnership with Flagler County, together we are supporting the drone industry as it grows and facilitating safer flights through our platform, AirHub,” said company co-founder Ana Healande in its release.
The initiative, according to the release, allows drone pilots the ability to stay compliant with airspace rules and regulations through Airspace Link’s Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability services.

“Everyone wins with a safety-first mindset,” said President and CEO Michael Healander in the release. “Putting in the digital infrastructure necessary to enable compliant and safer drone flights provides the safety benefits needed today that are critical to opening up the unlocked potential of drone scalable industry applications that will drive future economic growth.”

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