

## UAV NEW STUDY SHOWS STRONG PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR UAV USE

The Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) has found that an overwhelming majority of Americans support the use of unmanned aircraft for homeland security, search and rescue, and fighting crime, according to a new poll released in June. The study, conducted by the Institute for Homeland Security Solutions and RTI International, shows that the majority of the general public supports the use of unmanned aircraft in the United States for a wide array of uses.

According to the national study, 57 percent of the general public supports the use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) for any application. When asked about specific uses of the technology, support was significantly higher, with 88 percent of respondents supporting UAS for search and rescue operations. In addition, two-thirds of Americans support their use in homeland security missions.

The study of 2,000 respondents, conducted in March 2013, gauged perceptions about of unmanned aircraft in the U.S. Additional findings include:

- 88% of the general public supports their use in search and rescue operations
- 67% support their use in homeland security missions
- 63% support their use in fighting crime
- 61% support their use in commercial applications

"The tremendous support that Americans have for the use of unmanned aircraft systems in the U.S. underscores the public's understanding of the widespread benefits," said Michael Toscano, president & CEO of the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI). "Unmanned aircraft have the potential to be beneficial in a wide range of applications, from helping to search for lost children and missing hikers to helping homeland security keep our borders safe. This public support



Researchers pose with GTMAX, Georgia Tech's test bed UAV helicopter. They are (l-r) Henrik Christophersen, Dan Schrage, Eric Johnson, George Vachtsevanos, and Jeong Hur.

shows the importance of safely integrating UAS into the national airspace in a timely manner."

Toscano continued, "Unmanned aircraft increase human potential, allowing us to execute dangerous or difficult tasks safely and efficiently. Whether it is helping first responders, advancing scientific research, or making business more efficient, UAS are capable of saving time, saving money and most importantly, saving lives."

The poll is part of an RTI research program to better understand the social, behavioral and policy implications of this new technology. Two pilot studies were designed: one to gauge public perceptions and awareness of unmanned aircraft systems, and another to assess law enforcement concerns.

The Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) is the world's largest non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of unmanned systems, representing more than 7,000 members from 65 allied countries involved in the fields of government, industry and academia.

■ To read the full report visit - <http://bit.ly/14X5myE>

■ More information visit - [www.auvsi.org](http://www.auvsi.org)

## UAV - MICRODRONES MICRODRONE MD4-1000 CROSSES THE ALPS

A type md4-1000 microdrone managed something that no other quadcopter has yet been able to achieve: equipped with an HD camera, and in adverse conditions, it set off from Switzerland and crossed the Saint-Gotthard Massif towards Italy. The complex record flight, which took almost 25 minutes, was monitored and documented by a professional stunt and film team. Helicopters and many cameras accompanied the md4-1000 on its journey over the Alps. Numerous companies took part in the experiment - including Mercedes-Benz, Sony, Zeiss and u-Blox.



Record endurance test - a microdrones GmbH md4-1000 drone flies over the Saint-Gotthard Massif

Special thanks to Ferdi Fischer of slamartist.com. Ferdi was the director, co-ordinator and in charge of all action-scenes on the whole set. Watch out for the complete alps crossing video.... coming soon!

■ More information about the alps crossing and to view the video - visit - [www.microdrones.com](http://www.microdrones.com)



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## SURVEILLANCE L-3 WESCAM LAUNCHES TWO NEW PRODUCTS



L-3 WESCAM launched two new surveillance-related products at the recent Paris Air Show. These will directly reduce the costs associated with development testing and the sustainment of fielded electro-optical/infrared (EO/IR) surveillance and targeting systems. The new MX™-Emulator and MX™-RAid products support L-3 WESCAM's portfolio of MX™-Series systems for military, homeland security and airborne law enforcement use.

The launch of the MX-Emulator enables system integrators and OEMs to dramatically reduce the System Integration Lab (SIL) development costs associated with critical integration activities. Engineered to replicate the exact functionality of airborne and ground-based MX systems, the MX-Emulator provides connectivity to all standard control systems, including hand controllers, operator control units, joysticks and mission grips.

L-3's concurrent launch of the MX-RAid, Internet version, provides a remote diagnostic capability for the evaluation of fielded MX-Series EO/IR systems. This exclusive capability gives L-3 WESCAM's customers immediate access to an in-house factory technician who can diagnose in-service system issues from afar.

Originally conducted over a satellite connection, this new Internet-based connection option provides a data link between an L-3 WESCAM technician and the fielded MX-Series system, enabling live video, voice or text chat capability, and the streaming of live system video. The MX-RAid technology returns some systems to operational status from the field and reduces the number of systems being sent to service facilities with "No Fault Found" (NFF) systems issues.

■ More information on MX™-RAid products visit - <http://bit.ly/120k82u> and [www.wescam.com](http://www.wescam.com)

## CIVIL AIR PATROL AT AEROEXPO UK



Local police officers with the CAP chairman, Tony Cowan and pilot, Andrew Lysser.

Aero Expo, at Sywell aerodrome in Northamptonshire is one of the UK's largest general aviation events and this year it attracted thousands of aviation enthusiasts and members of the general public during three days of exceptionally fine weather. The range of aircraft included some of the larger executive aircraft as well as the smaller microlights, and everything in between.

This year the Civil Air Patrol had its own chalet with display boards and leaflets on the inside and the autogyro belong to the chief pilot of Cumbria Civil Air Patrol, Andrew Lysser on the outside. As well as Andrew the chalet was manned for the three day event by the CAP chairman, Tony Cowan and the vice chairman and chief pilot of Highland Civil Air Patrol, Peter Macintosh.

Other CAP trustees who were at Aero Expo were Dave Unwin, flight test editor for PILOT magazine and John Cairns from Solent Civil Air Patrol who was at the event with the Royal Institute of Navigation. Also at the event was Chris Borchardt the chief pilot of the new Wessex Civil Air Patrol who had flown to the event with his wife Karen.

The autogyro, which is an excellent air observation platform, proved to be a real 'magnet' and attracted a lot of interest from both the public and members of the emergency services. On the Sunday, the third day of the event, Andrew Lysser was asked, and agreed, to fly a member of the media so that Aero Expo 2013 could be recorded from the air for television and for further publicity.

■ More information visit - [www.expo.aero/uk](http://www.expo.aero/uk) and [www.skywatchcivilairpatrol.org.uk](http://www.skywatchcivilairpatrol.org.uk)

## SEARCHLIGHT HELI-ONE APPROVED FOR SPECTROLAB'S SEARCHLIGHTS

Heli-One, the world's largest independent provider of helicopter maintenance, repair and overhaul services, has added a new accreditation to its helicopter modification and upgrade capabilities.

Spectrolab Inc., a subsidiary of Boeing, has accredited Heli-One's Norway workshop as a Certified Service Center and Authorized Repair Facility for their Nightsun® Searchlight Systems and components. Spectrolab Nightsun® Searchlight Systems are used by law enforcement, fire-and-rescue and news organizations worldwide.

Among its growing list of accreditations, Heli-One's Norway workshop is an authorised AgustaWestland Service Center, Bell Helicopter Customer Facility, Eurocopter Repair Center, and Turbomeca Accredited Repair Center. Heli-One's Spectrolab capabilities. Our state-of-the-art Stavanger workshop facility contains an integrated Test Fixture for Spectrolab products and components.

Some of the Spectrolab products and components that Heli-One supports include:

### Nightsun XP / XP IFCO

- Searchlights
- Sidecar controller
- Remote I/O Assy
- Junction box
- Hand controllers

### SX-16 / SX-16 IFCO [photo]

- Searchlights
- Gimbals
- Junction boxes
- Control box

### SX-5

- Searchlight
- Gimbals
- Junction boxes
- Control box



Spectrolab's Nightsun SX16 Searchlight

■ More information visit - [www.spectrolab.com](http://www.spectrolab.com) and [www.heli-one.ca](http://www.heli-one.ca)