VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY PROTOCOLS GOVERNING THE OPERATION OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS AT UNIVERSITY PROPERTIES WITHOUT AN APPROVED PROTOCOL

I. Purpose

This document is supplemental to the *Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Policy Governing the Operation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)* and serves to outline the Protocols for conducting UAS operations on University-controlled property. This protocol document establishes the <u>minimum</u> qualifications to operate in each location, specific flight authorizations may require additional qualifications.

II. Protocol

UAS Operations on other University-controlled property

All other UAS Operations on University-controlled property will be subject to the Blacksburg Campus Protocol, unless a site specific Protocol has been established for that location by UASOC. UASOC has the sole authority to establish Protocols and all proposed site protocols must be submitted to UASOC for approval.

In addition, any proposed changes to established Protocols, such as authorization of UAS operations for specific purposes without prior UAS Safety Office approval, must be submitted to UASOC for approval. UASOC will be responsible for the review, approval and establishment of any Protocols or changes to Protocols.

Please submit inquiries concerning UAS operations to the UAS Safety Office at <u>uassafety@vt.edu</u> or (540) 231-7484 / 7303.

Any University authorization of UAS operations will not replace or supersede any technical or safety reviews of flight operations (such as reviews relating to aviation safety, qualifications of operators, and feasibility of the operations) as may be required by the FAA. The University is <u>not</u> responsible for an operator's failure to comply with any reviews or requirements that may be imposed by the FAA. Strict compliance by the operator with FAA requirements is necessary for aviation safety.

Other University – controlled property other than Blacksburg Campus, Kentland Farms or ARECs

- ✓ FAA Remote Pilot Certificate or meet the specific FAA flight authorization qualifications
- ✓ VT UAS Training
- ✓ Written Approval of Operation from UAS Safety Office
- ✓ Aircraft registration with Virginia Tech Risk Management Office

This Protocol has been reviewed and approved by the Virginia Tech Unmanned Aircraft Systems Oversight Committee.

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