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Academy of Model Aeronautics, UASidekick Partner to Disseminate Free LAANC Flight Planning Software to UAS Hobbyists

Muncie, Indiana – The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and UASidekick announced a new partnership today to disseminate free recreational Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC) flight planning to nearly 175,000 UAS hobbyists who are members of AMA. The software allows pilots to file LAANC authorizations with the FAA when flying in controlled airspace via a web portal and mobile application. It includes additional flight planning tools such as interactive maps, weather information and flight logs.

“One of our top priorities is helping hobbyists comply with evolving regulations. We are proud to partner with UASidekick, which has developed the leading technology to help recreational and commercial pilots secure necessary approvals from the FAA and plan safe flights. This cutting-edge technology will hopefully make the safe operation of UAS a little bit easier for our community,” said Chad Budreau, Executive Director of AMA.

“At UASidekick, we have always been committed to the “Safer Skies” mindset and working closely with industry professionals like AMA. We are confident that the hobbyist community will find immense value in the quick and easy access to the regulatory system that our software provides. Our goal is to provide streamlined authorization services and flight planning tools that make flying safer and less burdensome for AMA’s community,” said Nathan Ruff, CEO and Cofounder of UASidekick.

In addition to access to free LAANC flight planning software, AMA members will also receive a significant discount for the full UASidekick functionality for commercial and organization UAS pilots.

UASidekick is also planning to integrate into its map functionality information about AMA’s flying sites across the U.S. and future UAS events hosted by AMA. UASidekick and AMA will provide training webinars to help UAS pilots understand the airspace and flight restrictions, as well as informational webinars on the industry and changing regulations.

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About AMA

The Academy of Model Aeronautics, founded in 1936, continues to be devoted to national airspace safety. It serves as the nation’s collective voice for approximately 175,000 modelers in 2,400 clubs in the United

States and Puerto Rico. Headquartered in Muncie, Indiana, AMA is a membership organization representing those who fly model aircraft for recreation and educational purposes. For more information, visit www.modelaircraft.org.

About UASidekick

UASidekick is a software as a service company to the aviation industry, in particular the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) or drone segment. UASidekick provides easy airspace awareness, safety, authorization, and access for drone pilots. In addition to these core service offerings, UASidekick functionality includes micro-weather, real-time NOTAM filing, fleet management, compliance tracking, and logbook capabilities. UASidekick is headquartered in Greenville, SC with all software development work performed exclusively within the USA.

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