

Press release

# Droniq: cleared for safe drone flights

**Frankfurt, 9 September 2019 – Droniq, the joint venture of DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH (DFS) and Deutsche Telekom, is offering the first traffic management system for drones in Germany and paves the way for safe and efficient drone operations.**

Drones are quick, small and nimble, so they can fulfil many tasks more quickly, silently and sustainably than conventional technologies. They are used by rescue services, fire-fighters or by large industrial companies, for example to inspect power lines, wind turbines or pipelines. Unlike other aircraft, however, unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) do not transmit their positions and are too small to be detected by radar. So, how is it possible to integrate drones safely into the airspace and enable flights outside the visual line of sight? Droniq has found an answer to this question.

## **Drone detection via the mobile telecommunications network**

Drones are detected with the help of a drone traffic management system (UAS traffic management system, UTM). “Our technology will finally make it possible to operate drones safely and simply across large distances and, in this way, to fully exploit the potential of professional drones,” said Jan-Eric Putze, CEO of Droniq. This system is based on an air traffic control system and uses the mobile communications network. “The mobile communications network is already available throughout Germany and offers the prerequisite for safe drone operations not only near the operator but also across larger distances,” said Ralph Schepp, COO of Droniq. For the drone to be detected, the company has developed a special LTE modem with an integrated SIM card, the so-called hook-on device (HOD). After this device is hooked on the drone, it transmits the position of the drone and its identification to the UTM system using the mobile communications network. In addition to basic data, the network can also be used to transfer steering commands and other information, such as image and survey data in real time.

## **New HOD generation makes drones visible to other airspace users**

In the airspace close to the ground, there is currently no radar coverage and airspace users generally fly according to visual flight rules (VFR). For this reason, gliders, powered aircraft or helicopters generally use the collision warning system FLARM (Flight Alarm) or ADS-B (Automatic Dependent Surveillance - Broadcast) which continuously transmit undirected position and other flight data. The new generation of hook-on devices receives FLARM and ADS-B and forwards these position data to the UTM. In this way, the drone pilot always receives a precise overview of all flight movements in the vicinity. In addition, the HOD also transmits its own position data via FLARM, so a glider pilot near a drone with HOD, for example, will automatically receive a warning in the cockpit although he doesn't even use the UTM. “This new development means a maximum safety increase in the airspace close to the ground and is a central step towards safety of all airspace users,” said Thilo Vogt, Head of Sales and Business Development at Droniq.

## **Full use of the potential of commercial drones thanks to the UTM**

The first version of the UTM is available and already being used operationally, for example by chemical and energy companies. Droniq service covers the entire spectrum for drone flights outside the visual line of sight. Experts from the areas of air navigation services, aviation and mobile

communications can develop concrete flight intentions with their customers. They can also provide assistance with permissions and train drone pilots or even deploy their own pilots.

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*Would you like to get to know Droniq? Come and visit us at the INTERGEO /Interaerial Solutions in Stuttgart. You will find us in hall 4, stand B4.054. For a free visitor's ticket for all three days of the fair, use the following link: <https://www.messe-ticket.de/HINTE/INTERGEOEXPO2019/Register> and enter this code: IASEXPO19-PARTNER1*

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**Droniq GmbH is headquartered in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, and is a joint venture between DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH (DFS) and Deutsche Telekom AG. The object of the company is the provision, distribution and marketing of services for drones and other aircraft in Europe. DFS holds a stake of 51 percent through its subsidiary DFS International Business Services GmbH, while Deutsche Telekom holds a stake of 49 percent through Telekom Innovation Pool GmbH. [www.droniq.de](http://www.droniq.de)**

## Imprint

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