Commercial Drone Operations Management Training Course

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Manchester (UK)



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Introduction:

Commercial drone operations management is the systematic governance of unmanned aircraft systems fleets, flight crews, airspaces, and safety protocols to conduct compliant civil aerial missions. This one-week course prepares flight operations managers, safety directors, and compliance specialists to construct an integrated UAS Operations Manual, Safety Management System, and Emergency Response Plan Dossier. Delivered at practitioner depth through structured case study evaluation, delegates apply the ISO 21384-3:2023 standard for unmanned aircraft operational procedures alongside the JARUS SORA Edition 2.5 methodology for quantitative operational risk assessment. Professionals master commercial drone operations management with Blackbird Training Centre to lead compliant aerial flight campaigns.

Course Objectives:

- Distinguish between Open Category operational limitations and Specific Category operational authorisations under GACAR Part 107 regulations.
- Compare Intrinsic Ground Risk Class determinations versus Final Ground Risk Class reductions using JARUS SORA Edition 2.5 mitigations.
- Apply ISO 21384-3:2023 operational procedures to govern crew handovers, flight logging, and unmanned traffic management coordination.
- Interpret Remote Pilot Certificate airman certification requirements across online RPC-O theory tests versus examiner-led RPC-S assessments.
- Select appropriate Direct Remote ID versus Network Remote ID broadcast mechanisms to maintain continuous regulatory tracking compliance.
- Justify organisational safety cases by integrating Safety Management Systems, Operations Manuals, and Emergency Response Plans.

Target Audience:

- Commercial flight operations leads responsible for unmanned fleet deployments who must decide between visual line of sight and beyond visual line of sight operational authorisations.
- Aviation regulatory compliance officers responsible for multi-agency airworthiness filings who must evaluate cross-border customs releases and survey data capture permits.
- Enterprise safety and quality directors responsible for organizational risk governance who must judge operational safety objectives and mitigation robust levels under specific risk assessments.
- Surveying and remote sensing managers responsible for airborne data acquisition who must select sensor integration parameters aligned with civil drone registration thresholds.



Course Outline:

Day 1: Civil Drone Regulatory Frameworks and Airspace Operating Categories

- GACAR Part 107 Architecture: Governing Non-Recreational Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Under 25 Kilograms
- Open Category vs Specific Category: Evaluating Standard Operational Limits Against Special Flight Authorisations
- GACAR Part 48 Aircraft Registration: Applying Twenty-Five Hundred Gram Thresholds and Serial Marking Rules
- Multi-Agency Compliance Coordination: Aligning Ministry of Interior Clearances and ZATCA Border Release Protocols
- Remote Pilot Certification Rules: Structuring Syllabi for RPC-O Knowledge Exams and RPC-S Practical Reviews

Day 2: International Operational Standards and System Safety Specifications

- ISO 21384-3:2023 Operational Procedures: Standardising Mission Planning, Operational Charts, and Flight Logs
- ISO 21384-3:2023 vs ISO 21384-2:2021: Differentiating Operational Procedures from Manufacturing Product Safety
- Unmanned Traffic Management Coordination: Implementing Command and Control Communication Service Provider External Integrations
- Geospatial Survey Governance: Integrating GEOSA Aerial Survey Authorisation Workflows with Operational Flight Plans
- Fleet Maintenance Protocols: Tracking Component Life Cycles and Battery Management Across Enterprise Drones

Day 3: Remote Identification, Fleet Telemetry, and Flight Execution

- Mandatory Remote Identification Protocols: Integrating Broadcast Transponders Transmitting Operator Identity and Craft Position
- Direct Remote ID vs Network Remote ID: Selecting Broadcast Architecture for Mixed Fleet Airspace Deconfliction
- Automated Fleet Management Platforms: Configuring Cloud-Based Operations Portals for Live Telemetry and Remote Missions
- Airspace Restrictions Management: Enforcing Five-Kilometre Aerodrome Buffers and Visual Line of Sight Altitude Ceilings
- Insurance and Liability Compliance: Securing Third-Party Drone Liability Policies Adhering to Central Banking Rules



Day 4: Specific Operations Risk Assessment and Emergency Planning

- JARUS SORA Edition 2.5 Methodology: Executing the Ten-Step Quantitative Operational Risk Formulation Process
- Intrinsic Ground Risk vs Final Ground Risk: Calculating Density Class Reductions Using Parachutes and Shelters
- Air Risk Class Quantification: Evaluating Uncontrolled Airspace Collision Likelihood and Strategic Tactical Air Mitigations
- Specific Assurance and Integrity Levels: Mapping Calculated Risk Metrics Across SAIL Operational Safety Objectives
- Emergency Response Planning: Structuring Containment Escalation and Air Traffic Incident Reporting for Specific Category Flights

Day 5: Case Study Execution: Developing the Commercial Operations Dossier

- Case Study Scenario Analysis: Evaluating Complex Industrial Infrastructure Inspection Proposals Under Subpart D Requirements
- GACAR Part 107 Operations Manual Formulation: Writing Flight Crew Rosters, Pre-Flight Checklists, and Flight Limits
- VLOS Standard Missions vs BVLOS Approvals: Defending Complex Beyond Line of Sight Mitigation Evidence
- Safety Management System Integration: Formalising Hazard Identification Logs and Root-Cause Flight Event Workflows
- Final Deliverable Verification: Reviewing the UAS Operations Manual, Safety Management System, and Emergency Response Plan Dossier

Skills You Will Gain:

- SORA Risk Assessment
- UAS Operations Manual Drafting
- Remote Identification Integration
- Air Risk Class Mitigation
- Safety Management System Structuring
- GACAR Part 107 Compliance
- Emergency Response Planning



Why Attend This Course:

- From relying on informal visual line of sight flight checks to establishing standardised flight planning aligned with ISO 21384-3:2023 operational procedures.
- From uncertainty regarding multi-agency aerial survey approvals to executing coordinated applications across aviation, interior, customs, and geospatial authorities.
- From subjective operational hazard estimates to calculating precise Ground Risk Classes and Air Risk Classes under JARUS SORA Edition 2.5.
- From fragmented flight logs to producing an audit-ready UAS Operations Manual, Safety Management System, and Emergency Response Plan Dossier.

Conclusion:

Commercial drone operations management establishes structured operational control and verifiable safety assurance across enterprise unmanned aircraft missions. This course distinguishes standard Open Category flight limitations from high-risk Specific Category authorisations, qualitative field hazards from quantitative JARUS SORA Edition 2.5 risk levels, and direct telemetry broadcasting from network remote identification. Suited for operations managers and compliance specialists operating at practitioner depth, the curriculum delivers the exact procedural knowledge, risk modelling capabilities, and governance discipline required to plan, document, and execute legal commercial drone operations.

Frequently Asked Questions FAQ:

What is commercial drone operations management?

Commercial drone operations management is the administrative, technical, and regulatory discipline of managing civil unmanned aircraft fleets. It encompasses pilot certification, flight authorisation filings, maintenance scheduling, airspace deconfliction, and organisational safety risk governance required to run compliant commercial aerial operations.

What is the difference between Open Category and Specific Category drone flights in commercial drone operations management?

Open Category operations cover low-risk flights conducted within visual line of sight below 120 metres away from uninvolved persons without prior flight permits. Specific Category operations govern moderate-risk operations, including beyond visual line of sight, night operations, and flights over assemblies, requiring formal operational risk authorisations.



Which international standards are applied in commercial drone operations management?

The course applies ISO 21384-3:2023 for operational procedures and flight deconfliction, alongside JARUS SORA Edition 2.5 for quantitative Specific Category risk assessments. Technical product standards are referenced against ISO 21384-2:2021 requirements to verify aircraft manufacturing and system safety integrity.

Is commercial drone operations management suitable for an aviation safety and compliance officer?

Yes, this course is designed for aviation safety and compliance officers. It builds practical competencies in evaluating civil aviation regulations, auditing flight crew credentials, drafting Safety Management Systems, and calculating quantitative risk mitigations required to secure complex commercial drone flight authorisations.

