

Raytheon Company (Missiles and Defense – M)
Experimental License Application
File Number: 0041-EX-CN-2021

Explanation of Experiment

Overview:

Raytheon Company (Missile and Defense – M) (Raytheon) is the primary missile manufacturer in the US, supplying ordinance ready to operate to the US military. Raytheon's experience with missiles has led its customers to seek UAV technology based on some of its existing platforms and knowledge. This has led Raytheon into the development of advanced UAV technology as well. This application seeks authorization for the use of a radio that is used in the development and testing of its advanced UAVs. The radios incorporated into the UAVs support the mission of the UAV testing.

Raytheon has a contract with the US Army for the advanced development of the UAV systems. The contract number is: HQ 0727-18-F-1632. Raytheon's Army customer is requesting additional demonstrations at the Dugway site where Raytheon has been working under the auspices of STA WQ9XWK. This application seeks to extend those operations.

Technical Synopsis:

Spectrum Needed: 1362, 1377, 1395 MHz, emission is 20 MHz wide
Limited Time of Use: only occasional testing at this location
Limited time of use: 1-2 hours per day of radio use
Limited area of operations: maximum 3000 feet elevation
Power levels are low for airborne operations: L band 5.5 W, only 6 W ERP
Ground control maximum ERP: 49 W

Description of Operations:

Raytheon needs to demonstrate performance characteristics of its Coyote UAV system on an ongoing basis.

This UAV platform has been designed to perform a range of tasks. They include surveillance and monitoring. Those tasks require the UAV to carry a range of radio links to ensure its proper performance. Each link is described in more detail below.

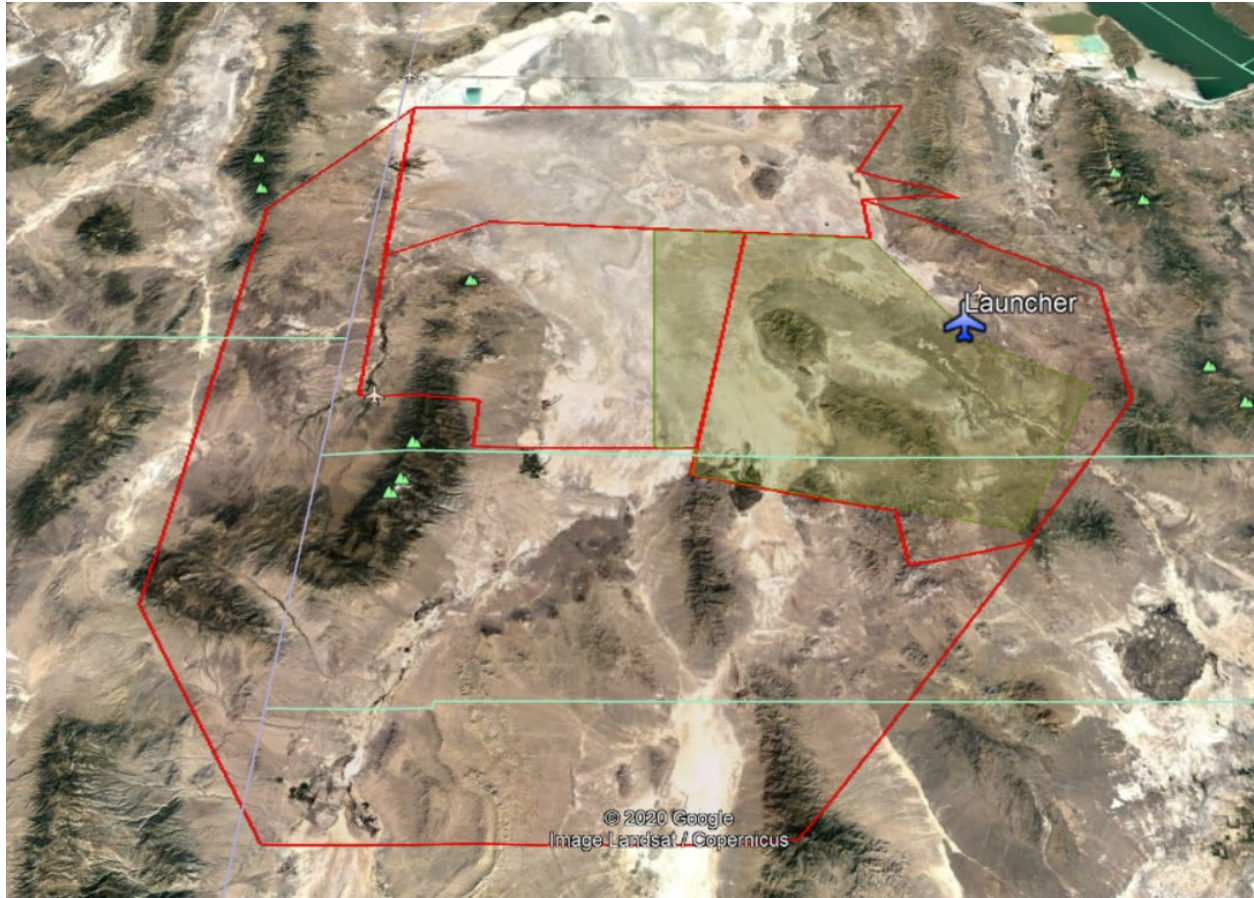
Limited Time of Use:

The UAVs are tested using batteries. The battery life lasts up to two hours. Because the program will need to process test results, they normally only schedule one test per day to take advantage of overnight recharging for the batteries.

Further, the program will not be testing at both locations at the same time, so the amount of spectrum use at any location will be very limited.

Locations of Testing:

The testing will be conducted in a remote portion of Utah. See below for the operational area. The 36-mile radius of operations is based upon a center point in the diagram. The launches will take place at the launcher location marked below.



Spectrum Use:

L band frequencies: These frequencies are used as datalinks to transmit data while the UAVs are in flight. These radios use a specifically configured frequency within the band. Most of the spectrum will be unused. The radios are programmed for the flights.

The radio has an ability to move from one channel to another if it experiences interference. The wider bandwidth requested gives more spread, allowing better data throughput.

The airborne radio operates at 5.5 W, with 6 W ERP. The ground control radio operates from a low power of 7.1 W ERP to a higher power of 49 W ERP – which is only in use as a back up if there is a loss of communication with the UAV.

Local deconfliction: the program will work with local spectrum managers prior to any flight operations to deconflict radio operations that are local to the area.

Stop Buzzer Point of Contact:

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Conclusion:

Raytheon is seeking an experimental license for ongoing testing and demonstrations of its UAV platform. The testing will be limited in nature. The radio use will be limited, because the systems will not be tested in all locations at the same time. Furthermore, only selected parts of the frequency bands requested will be in use at any time. The bands were requested to expedite local spectrum coordination.

If there are any questions about this proposed operation, please contact Anne E. Cortez, counsel, Washington Federal Strategies, at 520-360-0925 or alc@conspecinternational.com.