

AERIAL DRONES

(Updated 04.21.15)

The Los Angeles Convention Center supports the use of cutting-edge technology, such as aerial drones, at events held within the Center. Approved use of this technology is limited within the “four walls” of the Center. Operation of aerial drones outside of the building requires appropriate authorization from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Aerial drones are defined as any remote-controlled, unmanned aircraft device under the operation of one or multiple persons. Aerial drones can be units that take video footage, take static images or provide some type of service.

Use and operation of aerial drones in the Center is subject to the advance review and approval of the LACC Fire Marshal. Term and conditions of this approval include, but not limited to, the following:

- Designation of a separate demonstration area (fly-zone area) away from the general public, enclosed by safety netting or steel mesh.
- Designation of the fly-zone area must be contained within the Licensee’s contracted space or approved lobby areas.
- In addition to the safety netting or steel mesh, the Fire Marshal may require additional barriers and safety buffer zones.
- Operation of the aerial drones outside the designated fly-zone is strictly prohibited.
- A representative from the drone manufacturer or authorized operator shall be present at all times in the fly-zone area.
- No other persons, unless authorized by the LACC Fire Marshal, is allowed in the fly-zone area while the aerial drone is in operation.
- There shall be an unobstructed sight path between the aerial drone and its operator at all times.
- Upon approval by the LACC Fire Marshal, the aerial drone unit may be operated to hover up and down, rather than in a fly-around pattern within the fly-zone area.
- Operation of any aerial drone cannot exceed 30’ in height inside exhibit halls and no more than 50’ in tower lobby areas.
- The LACC Fire Marshal may require a fire safety officer on stand-by (billable to show management or exhibitor) upon full review of the aerial drone operation plan.

To ensure that aerial drone operations are reviewed in a timely manner, please submit the following to your Event Manager no later than **thirty (30) days prior** to the first show day.

- Name of drone manufacturer/exhibitor, including contact name, cell phone and email address.
- Manufacturer’s specs of the unit to include dimensions, weight, construction material and unit function(s).
- Proposed hours of operation, frequency and # of drone operators.
- # of aerial drone unit to be operated
- A floor plan of designated fly-zone area to include dimensions of proposed space, height of safety netting proximity of general public viewing area and location of safety buffer zone.

The use of this amazing technology also brings with it additional issues, namely with confidentiality and liability. Licensee assumes full responsibility and liability for approved aerial drone operations within its contracted space or approved lobby areas, regardless if such operation is done by an exhibitor, contractor or show management. In addition, Licensee shall be responsible for properly notifying exhibitors, attendees and the general public to their event that an aerial drone is in operation and may be taking video or images. The LACC may require show management to provide appropriate signage to this end.

The proposed operation of aerial drones outside the “four walls” of the Los Angeles Convention Center falls under the jurisdiction and advance authorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Please visit www.faa.gov/uas/civil_operations to get information on obtaining a certification of operation or please call the FAA Los Angeles Office at 562.627.5200. Please provide your Event Manager a copy of your FAA authorization upon receipt.