Northeast Ohio Flight Information Exchange (NEOFIX)

Stakeholder Meeting

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 1 PM (EST)

Hosts: Stuart Mendel, PhD, Baldwin Wallace University
                        John Eberhardt, ATA, LLC
                        Scott Drew, ATA, LLC
                        Howard Thompson, EHM Advisors and Manufacturing Works
                        Chelsea Treboniak, Critical Ops

Stakeholders: Mark Christie, Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management
                        Anthony Stella, Cuyahoga County Office of Economic Development
                        Mark Vedder, City of Solon
                        Jason Damman, V1DroneMedia
                        Dan Chan, Commercial Drone Group, Inc.
                        Ted Morley, Westlake Police Department
                        Hrishue Mahalaha, Executive Director of Aerozone Alliance and
                        Innovation Economy Partners
                        Bernie Becker, Cleveland State University
                        Adam Harvey, Cleveland Airport System
                        Javier Badillo, City of Cleveland, Department of Port Control
                        Greg Flanik, Baldwin Wallace University
                        Chad Hankins, Patriot Aerial Services
                        Scott Harrington, Greater Cleveland Partnership

Minutes:

Attendees provided brief introductions. Slides outlined the agenda and provided direction for the meeting.

NEOFIX Goals. An overview of NEOFIX allowed attendees to understand the endeavor and provide insights on aligned values such as added airspace safety, operator awareness, and coordinated public operations. Many attendees agreed a generic summary of NEOFIX is "a conglomerate of data for public use."

Detailed information regarding NEOFIX was shared and is summarized on the website: https://bw-centers-tech-partnerships.org/neofix/

Attendees exchanged ideas and questions regarding the public and private interaction with data. System security was a focal point. Explanations on security ensure unrestricted data is redacted and programmatic access to the system is via Application Programming Interface (API).

Case examples from Pennsylvania and Virginia guided examples for Cuyahoga County. Attendees engaged in discussions about policies, rules, and integrated data embedded in NEOFIX. Conversations included the following:

- Plans at critical infrastructure locations, hazardous sites, cargo areas, existing ground routes, etc.
- Defibrillator drop points, diagnosis capabilities, and supporting instruction through Uncrewed Aerial Vehicles (UAV)
- Traffic forecasts during multi-vehicle accidents, weather incidents, etc.
- Integrations with existing equipment, sensors, and cameras (e.g., Motorola, Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Buckeye Traffic, etc.)
- Payload rules and restrictions
- At-risk infrastructure, including bridges, power, etc.
- Ground data, including remote ID
- Sensor data, including hyper-accurate weather information
- Considerations for dealing with Beyond Visual Line of Site (BVLOS) and the Federal Aviation Administration
- Upgraded batteries for drones
- Considerations for safe commercial drone delivery, including flight routes and Traffic Collision Avoidance Systems (TCAS)

Attendees agreed that focusing on public safety overwatch and commercial drone delivery would best facilitate the following discussions.

Next Meeting. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at Baldwin Wallace University Knowlton Center Boardroom. Attendees were encouraged to register and invite one additional stakeholder to register via the following site: https://bw-centers-tech-partnerships.org/events/