



Northeast Ohio Flight Information Exchange (NEOFIX)
Stakeholder Meeting
Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 12:30 PM (EST)

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

Stakeholders: Please visit the website (<https://bw-centers-tech-partnerships.org/>)
for the stakeholder roster.

Minutes

NEOFIX hosts provided the following updates:

- There are 75 stakeholders engaged in the project. Representation includes the public, private, and non-profit sectors.
- Data sharing includes Cleveland Clinic, Zipline, Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, Middleburg Heights, and the SWGHC Dispatch Center. Additional opportunities are with Dedrone, FirstEnergy Corp., and Cleveland Metroparks.
- The FIX environment should be live by June 2023.
- Stakeholder accounts in the staging server will be arranged for May 2023 discussions, testing, and enhancements.
- Dissemination Control Models and Base Advisory Types discussed in the March 2023 meeting were approved.
- The first quarterly report through March 31, 2023 is published on the NEOFIX website under News.
- A shopping list for groundspace data is available and will be refined in virtual workgroups.

Scott Ross (FAA Retired): Scott shared the following past work experiences:

- CPC Cleveland ARTCC (ZOB)
- Traffic Management Coordinator ZOB
- Airspace and Procedure Specialist ZOB
- Airspace Redesign Consultant Human Solutions, Inc.

Commentary from Scott focused on projects and differentiators generating appeal and conditions for safe operations and a beneficial partnership with the FAA. The partnership needs to be centered around a trusted relationship and a central voice to mainstream operations and speed processing time. Additional components of FAA partnership goals include the following:

- Use legacy data and protocols
- Be creative/innovative

- Utilize all available resources
- Familiarity with SMS/NASA
- LAANC/Dronze Zone/B4UFLY

Stakeholder Discussions. Roundtable conversations focused on the following:

- Cleveland permission requirements for all take-offs and landings.
- Status of TFRs in all systems.
- Utilizing NEOFIX for a more diverse set of approval.
- National initiatives include the following:
 - FIXES are already up and running in VA and CA; in the pipeline for OK, AK, and PA. NEOFIX will have collaborative agreements with all of them
 - VA-AK-OK-PA working a formal national partnership; OH being invited in
 - DRONESRESPONDERS National Public Safety Working Group
 - Airports of the Future Working Group being stood up to collaborate with NASA on their AAM/RAM Campaign (VA, CA, AK, PA – Kent State and Hopkins invited)
 - ACUASI (Alaska FAA Test Site) is interested in partnering with BW and Kent State to support regulatory authorities in NE Ohio
 - FIX-MVI national working group forming, consisting of VA, AK, CA, PA, OK, NE Ohio, NJ
 - MVI projects currently in the process of funding in VA and PA – easy to link up and have a Washington-Cleveland national corridor
- Reaching New Heights in Advanced Air Mobility (<https://www.kent.edu/cae/news/reaching-new-heights-advanced-air-mobility>) is an event from May 1-2, 2023, to engage stakeholders in air vehicle segments. May 1st is a flight demonstration and May 2nd is plenary sessions and breakouts.

Action Plan. Four groups will assemble virtually in May. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to opt in or accept assignments to at least one of the following groups:

- The Data Sharing / Base Layers Group focuses on creating and entering groundspace data into the system, generating situational awareness, and improving safety.
- The Design and Configuration Group identifies guidance and advisories beneficial to groundspace data and flight planning. Detailed configuration information provides pilots key information.
- The Sensor Integration and Planning Group reviews use cases and works from the Design and Configuration Group to identify sensor needs, build an MVI deployment plan, and support direct sensor integration into NEOFIX. Sensor data leads to greater situational awareness, improved safety, more informed flight planning, and traffic management.
- The Policy group gathers existing policies and formulates recommendations to create or enhance safety, regulatory clarity, and operational awareness.

Next Meeting. The May meetings are virtual by user groups at a TBD date/time. The next in-person meeting is June 21, 2023, at Baldwin Wallace University Knowlton Center from 12:30 – 2:30 PM. Registration will be available shortly.