

Elevating Public Safety: How the Fotokite & DroneResponders Partnership Advances Actively Tethered UAS Standards & Training

Introduction

Public safety agencies are increasingly turning to Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) to enhance situational awareness and improve response efforts. However, adopting and integrating these programs can be challenging, especially for agencies that face regulatory obstacles, resource limitations and turnover.

Fotokite, a leader in (ATUAS) actively tethered UAS technology, has partnered with DroneResponders, a non-profit public safety UAS organization, to advance standards and training for first responders. This collaboration ensures that agencies—whether they have an established UAS program or are just beginning to explore the benefits of actively tethered USS technology—can confidently implement safe, effective, and compliant aerial operations for their agency.





The Growing Role of ATUAS in Public Safety

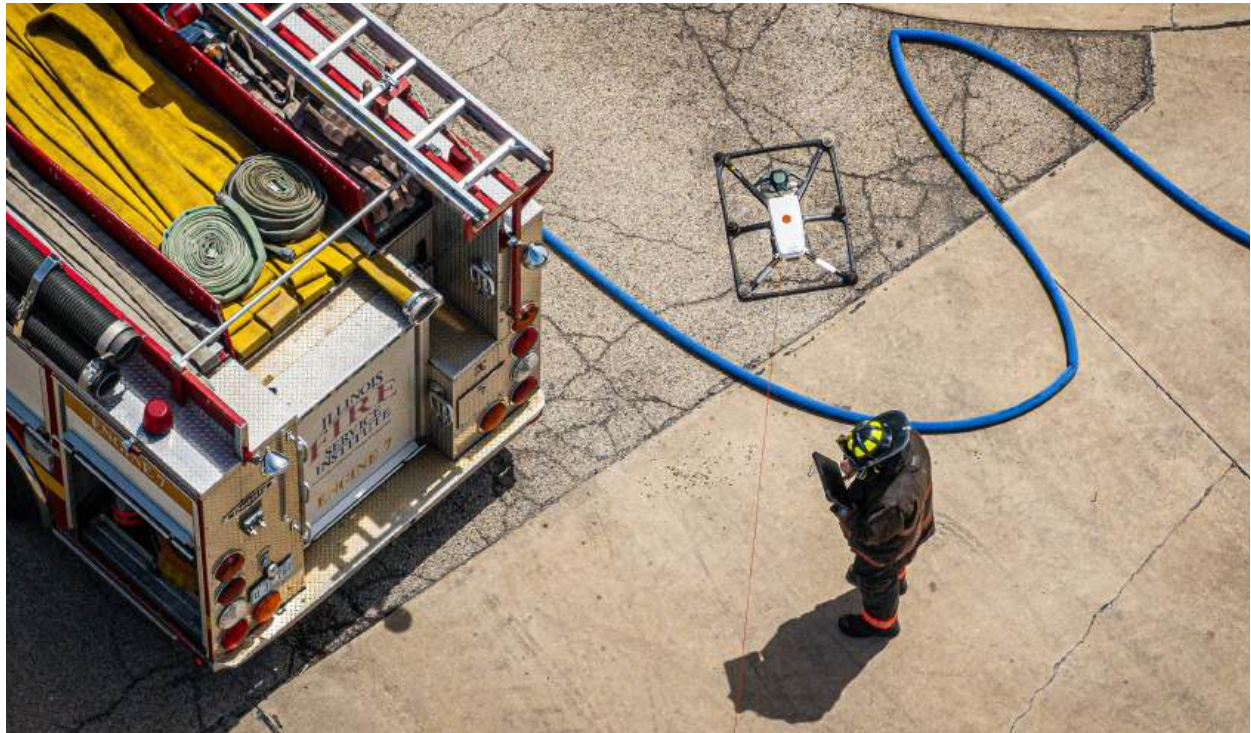
First responders rely on timely and accurate information to make critical decisions. Traditional drone programs have helped agencies gain aerial perspectives, but they often come with operational limitations, including:

- **Regulatory Restrictions:** Many agencies must obtain FAA waivers for beyond-visual-line-of-sight (BVLOS) or night operations.
- **Limited Flight Time:** Battery-powered drones require frequent landings and swaps, interrupting real-time situational awareness.
- **Complex Training Requirements:** Piloting free-flying drones requires certified operators and regular proficiency training.

Fotokite's actively tethered UAS solutions address these challenges by providing:

- **Persistent Aerial Coverage:** The tethered system allows unlimited flight time, ensuring continuous operations without battery limitations.
- **Regulatory Simplicity:** Fotokite's UAS operates without the need for traditional FAA waivers, making deployment faster and more accessible.
- **Easy Operation:** Designed for first responders, Fotokite deploys with the push of a button—no pilot's license required.





Advancing Standards & Training with DroneResponders

To maximize the impact of actively tethered UAS in public safety, Fotokite has partnered with DroneResponders to establish best practices and training programs that help agencies integrate this technology seamlessly.

1. Standardized Training for Public Safety ATUAS Programs

DroneResponders works closely with federal, state and local agencies to develop standardized training programs that align with real-world operational needs. Through this partnership, agencies gain access to:

- **Hands-on Training Modules:** Designed to help first responders quickly deploy and operate Fotokite in emergency scenarios.
- **Best Practices for Incident Response:** Guidelines for using ATUAS during structure fires, search and rescue operations, traffic management, and large-scale events.
- **Peer-to-Peer Knowledge Sharing:** Agencies can learn from real-world case studies and connect with other public safety professionals who have successfully implemented Fotokite.

2. Enhancing UAS Program Accessibility

Many agencies hesitate to launch UAS programs due to concerns about cost, compliance, and operational complexity. The Fotokite-DroneResponders partnership aims to remove these barriers by:

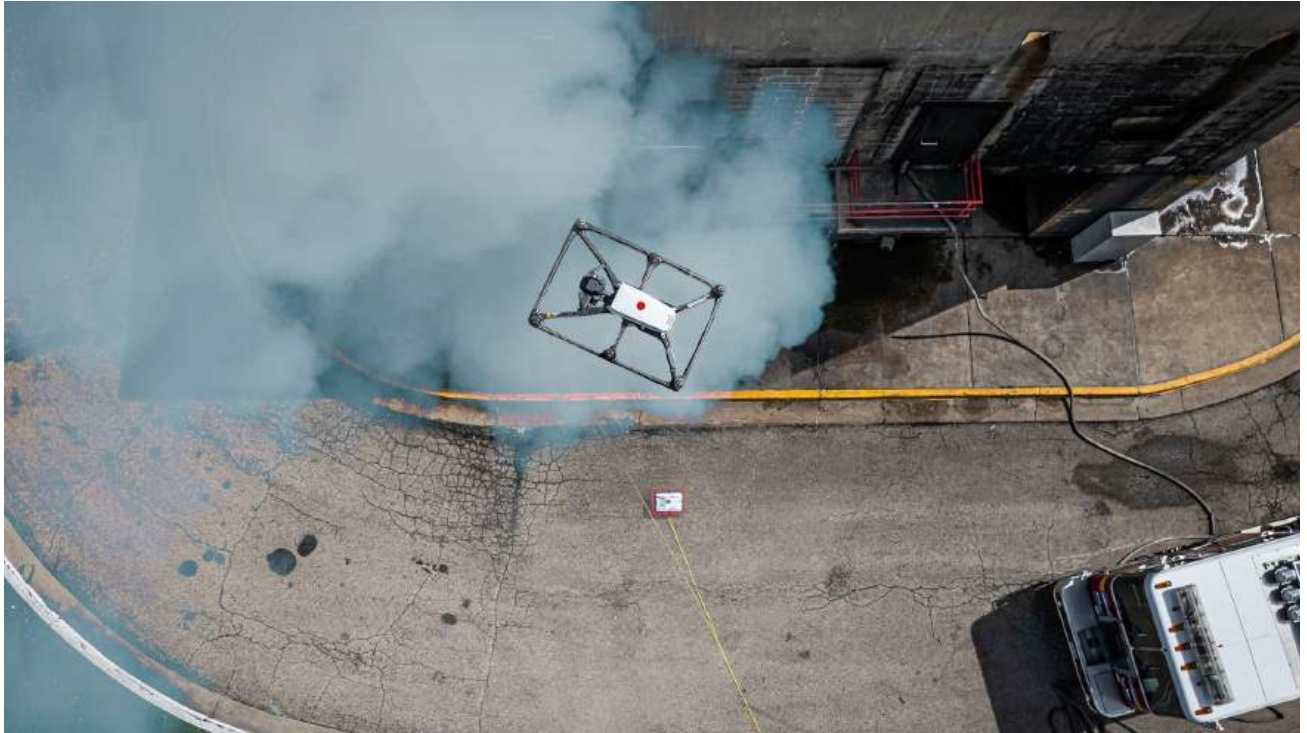
- **Educating Decision-Makers:** Providing agency leadership with data-driven insights on the benefits and cost-effectiveness of tethered UAS solutions.
- **Simplifying Implementation:** Offering step-by-step guidance on funding, procurement, and operational integration.
- **Ensuring Compliance & Safety:** Developing standardized operating procedures that align with national and local regulations.

3. Strengthening Public Safety Standard

A key component of the partnership is shaping the future of public safety UAS policies. By working together, Fotokite and DroneResponders contribute to:

- **Defining Actively Tethered UAS Guidelines:** Establishing best practices for agencies adopting tethered drone technology.
- **Improving Training Certification Programs:** Ensuring that agencies have the resources and knowledge needed for effective ATUAS operations.
- **Collaborating with Industry & Regulators:** Engaging with FAA representatives, public safety organizations, and industry leaders to advocate for clear, supportive policies.





Conclusion: A Future of Safer, Smarter Public Safety Operations

The partnership between Fotokite and DroneResponders represents a significant step forward in advancing UAS standards and training for public safety. Whether an agency is just beginning to explore drone technology or looking to expand its existing program, actively tethered UAS solutions provide a practical, cost-effective, and regulatory-friendly option for enhancing situational awareness and improving response outcomes.

By leveraging the expertise of DroneResponders and the reliability of Fotokite's technology, public safety agencies can confidently adopt aerial solutions that empower first responders to act quickly, efficiently, and safely.

For more information on how to integrate Fotokite into your agency's operations, visit www.fotokite.com or connect with DroneResponders to explore training opportunities.

Disclaimer: This whitepaper is for informational purposes only. Public safety organizations should consult legal counsel to ensure regulatory compliance.

