

# Oak Ridge National Laboratory Interview Released on UAV Market's Developments

*New interview released with Tech Director of Oak Ridge Natl. Lab., Dr Peter Fuhr, ahead of his talk at the 2nd UAV Technology Central&Eastern Europe conference*

LONDON, ENGLAND, UK, July 3, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- SMi Group have released an [interview](#) with Dr Peter Fuhr, Tech Director UAS Research Centre at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, ahead of his talk at the 2nd [UAV Technology Central & Eastern Europe](#) conference in Prague on 27 and 28th September 2017.

At the conference, Dr Peter Fuhr will discuss the latest research outcome for fire resisting drone and examine how 3D printing can revolutionise the UAV sector. He will also explore the benefits gained from enhance cooperation between the armed forces and R&D institution.

In the run up to the conference, SMi spoke to Dr Peter Fuhr about his work and developments in the UAV market.

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*Dr Peter Fuhr- Oak Ridge National Laboratory*

What are the major trends and developments in the UAV market and how has this impacted your programme and project?

Within the last 18 months there has been a dynamic change in the vendors providing “commercial-off-the-shelf” (COTS) UAVs. Certainly, the sophistication of inexpensive flight controllers with increasingly simplified UX interfaces is a notable advance, but in many instances, that is a programming improvement versus a fundamental advancement in the UAV hardware. Within the electric sector, the utilities continue to be investigating if it is best to own and

operate UAVs themselves, or should they contract services. The changes to the U.S. legality of UAV operation has significantly increased the number of available providers – a point that is still accelerating.



Can the boundaries between military and civil UAV be sustained?

I foresee a continuation of current policies, that in a tiered layering of the use of the vertical air space, the military use takes precedence.

What are the key areas that should be prioritised for UAV capability development?

Treating the UAV as a sensor platform rather than a “flying camera” provides immediate guidance to capability development. This is a central theme for the UAVs themselves and factors directly into applications within which the “flying sensor platforms” can be used.

What can we learn from the commercial UAVs?

Primarily that the hype associated with this (supposedly new) technology has quickly faded into reality with the number of commercial UAV vendors substantially reduced. Meanwhile, the private sector is rapidly adopting academic activities in the area of coordinated flight of multiple UAVs. This activity has great promise for inexpensive collaborative sensing of multi-disciplinary application areas from precision agriculture to post-disaster rescue and recovery.

The full interview is available to read in the event download centre <http://www.uav-technology.org/ein>

Other notable presenters include: Bundeswehr, Canadian Army, Croatian Ministry of Defence, Czech Armed Forces, Czech University of Defence, Estonian MoD, Formion SA, Hellenic Army General Staff, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, Latvian MoD, Lockheed Martin Canada CDL Systems, Macedonian Army, Ministry of Transport Czech Republic, NSPA, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, PA Consulting, Slovenian MoD, Swedish Defence University, US Army Europe and much more...

In addition, the conference also features an exclusive pre-conference workshop on “Proposal of UAS Training Programs for Territorial Defence Forces” hosted by Justyna Zdanowska, President, GEO-UAV taking place on the 26th September 2017.

The workshop provides an overview of activities concerning market development of emerging new types of trainings for UAS operators in Poland. It includes proposals, actions that have already been taken and tendencies related to both trainings and technology that might be possibly involved in the development of UAS trainings for units of Defence Forces.

Further information is available at online at: <http://www.uav-technology.org/ein>

UAV Technology Central and Eastern Europe

27th-28th September 2017

Hotel International, Prague, Czech Republic

<http://www.uav-technology.org/ein>

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