

Oregon UAS Accelerator Unveils Game-Changing Summer 2025 Cohort: 4 Startups Set to Transform Unmanned Systems Industry

Revolutionary companies tackle \$20B+ markets in wildfire response, mineral discovery, powerline infrastructure, and airspace security

PENDELTON, OR, UNITED STATES, June 3, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The [Oregon UAS Accelerator](#) today announced four breakthrough companies selected for its prestigious Summer 2025 cohort, representing cutting-edge solutions poised to revolutionize industries from emergency response to critical mineral exploration. The cohort will be officially introduced at the [Ascent to Excellence III](#) event on June 13, 2025, at the world-renowned Pendleton UAS Test Range.

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This elite group of startups collectively addresses market opportunities exceeding \$200 billion, bringing transformative technologies that promise to reshape how industries approach automation, safety, and efficiency. Each company offers unique solutions to pressing global challenges, from climate-driven wildfire threats to critical mineral shortages essential for clean energy transitions.

Introducing the Summer 2025 Innovators:

FlyX Technologies is pioneering the world's first wireless

power charging system for drones using existing powerline infrastructure, eliminating the need for costly charging stations and enabling unlimited flight range. Their proprietary electromagnetic field harvesting technology transforms powerlines into an aerial charging grid, offering 100 times better power-to-weight efficiency than traditional solutions. With a total



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addressable market of \$200 billion and partnerships already established with Idaho National Laboratory and major utilities, FlyX is targeting \$95 million in AI-as-a-Service revenue by 2029.

FNN Aviation addresses the devastating \$8 billion annual wildfire suppression challenge with their revolutionary Firebird Drone and SAFE (Suspended Autonomous Fire Extinguisher) system. Their AI-powered solution can precisely target fires from high altitudes without fanning flames, operating in dense forests and urban environments where traditional methods fail. The system represents a paradigm shift from reactive to proactive fire response, potentially saving billions in annual damages and countless lives.

Outer Rim Exploration (ORE) is transforming the \$70 billion mineral exploration market with AI-enabled drone-based muon tomography, reducing typical exploration costs from \$100 million to under \$10 million per project. Their breakthrough technology cuts discovery time from five years to less than one year while achieving a 90% reduction in failed drilling attempts. With the global demand for critical minerals surging 400% by 2030 to meet net-zero targets, ORE's solution addresses a critical supply chain bottleneck.

Sentradel (formerly Hover Defense) delivers autonomous counter-drone systems targeting the rapidly expanding \$20 billion global drone threat market. Their passive acoustic detection and AI-powered kinetic response technology provides 5-kilometer range protection for military bases, airports, and critical infrastructure. With applications spanning



The Oregon UAS Accelerator is Oregon's premier program for unmanned aerial systems innovation, dedicated to positioning Pendleton as a global hub for UAS & URS development.



The Oregon UAS Accelerator is proud to host the Pendleton Investor Round-Up, the culminating event of our Summer 2025 cohort. This exclusive gathering brings together cutting-edge Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) startups and potential investors in a dynamic

public safety, energy facilities, and national security, Sentradel addresses the urgent need for cost-effective drone defense as unauthorized UAV incidents continue to escalate.

Expert Leadership Drives Innovation Forward

"This cohort represents the most promising collection of UAS technologies we've ever assembled," said Joseph Wyno, Executive Director of the Oregon UAS Accelerator. "These four companies aren't just building incremental improvements—they're creating entirely new paradigms that will define the future of unmanned systems across multiple critical industries."

The diversity and market potential of this cohort reflects the accelerator's strategic focus on dual-use technologies that serve both commercial and defense applications. From FlyX's infrastructure-agnostic charging solutions to ORE's space-capable mineral detection technology, each company demonstrates scalability from local applications to global deployment.

Comprehensive Support Accelerates Market Entry

Selected companies receive the Oregon UAS Accelerator's comprehensive \$165,000 benefit package, including a \$40,000 non-dilutive grant, access to \$75,000 worth of flight testing at the Pendleton UAS Test Range, expert mentorship, and regulatory support. The 12-week intensive program culminates with the [Pendleton Investor Round-Up](#) on September 10, 2025, coinciding with the world-famous Pendleton Round-Up Rodeo.

"Our accelerator provides more than funding—we offer startups access to 14,000 square miles of unrestricted airspace, world-class testing facilities, and connections to industry leaders and investors," added Wyno. "This infrastructure advantage, combined with Oregon's business-friendly environment, creates the ideal conditions for UAS innovation to flourish."

Strategic Timing Capitalizes on Market Momentum

The announcement comes as the unmanned systems industry experiences unprecedented growth, driven by increasing demand for automation, infrastructure monitoring, and emergency response capabilities. The Oregon UAS Accelerator's track record of supporting successful startups positions this cohort to capture significant market share in rapidly expanding sectors.

The Ascent to Excellence III event on June 13, 2025, from 4:30-6:30 PM, will provide attendees with exclusive insights into these breakthrough technologies and networking opportunities with industry leaders, government officials, and potential investors.

About the Oregon UAS Accelerator

The Oregon UAS Accelerator is Oregon's premier program for unmanned aerial systems innovation, dedicated to positioning Pendleton as a global hub for UAS development. Through world-class resources, strategic mentorship, and cutting-edge testing capabilities at the Pendleton UAS Test Range, the accelerator empowers startups to transform breakthrough technologies into market-ready solutions. Funded by Business Oregon, the program has supported numerous successful companies across defense, agriculture, infrastructure, and

emergency response sectors.

Event RSVP: For Ascent to Excellence III registration and media credentials, visit www.oregonuas.org/ae3 or contact the Oregon UAS Accelerator directly.

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