

ZenaTech's ZenaDrone Begins Testing Phase for Interceptor P-1 Counter-UAS Drone Platform

Low-cost VTOL autonomous interceptor advances company's integrated Counter-UAS portfolio and defense system.

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- [ZenaTech, Inc.](https://www.zenattech.com/) (Nasdaq: ZENA) (FSE: 49Q) (BMV: ZENA) ("ZenaTech"), a technology solution provider specializing in AI (Artificial Intelligence) drone, Drone as a Service (DaaS), enterprise SaaS, and Quantum Computing solutions, announces that its ZenaDrone subsidiary has commenced the initial flight testing phase of its Interceptor P-1, the Company's low-cost, one-way autonomous counter-drone platform designed to physically intercept hostile unmanned aerial systems (UAS).

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ZenaDrone has begun flight testing its Interceptor P-1 autonomous counter-drone platform, marking a major milestone in the development of its AI-powered defense portfolio.

The commencement of testing represents a significant step in expanding the Company's Counter-UAS drone portfolio and integrated defense system. The Interceptor P-1 is designed as a vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL), one-way autonomous interceptor intended to provide an affordable alternative to traditional missile-based drone defense systems and asymmetric warfare combatting drone swarms with multi-million-dollar missiles.

"Our engineering team has reached an important milestone as we begin flight testing of the Interceptor P-1," said Shaun Passley, Ph.D., CEO of ZenaTech. "This program is focused on

validating the aircraft's flight characteristics, autonomous capabilities, and system reliability before advancing to increasingly complex interception exercises. We believe the demand for affordable counter-drone solutions continues to grow globally as military organizations and critical infrastructure operators seek cost-effective methods to defend against rapidly evolving drone threats."



The initial flight test campaign, to be conducted by the ZenaDrone engineering team at the company's testing range near its Mesa, Arizona facility, will evaluate vertical takeoff and landing performance, high-speed maneuverability, target acquisition and tracking algorithms, guidance

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controls, and communications reliability. Subsequent phases are expected to include autonomous target pursuit, moving-target intercept exercises, multi-drone operational scenarios, and integration with the Company's Zena AI Counter-UAS command software.

[The Interceptor P-1 prototype](#) was first disclosed in March 2026 which included a target selling price of under \$5,000 USD, positioning it as a significantly lower-cost alternative to traditional missile-based and laser-based intercept systems for modern asymmetric drone warfare. In April 2026, ZenaTech provided a further update on its expanding

defense manufacturing footprint, announcing the registration of Phoenix Aero LLC, a Ukrainian entity based in Lviv, which is being established to support future manufacturing and testing of the Interceptor P-1 and other counter-UAS systems as part of the Company's EMEA operations. ZenaTech is in the process of setting up this office.

The Company believes that low-cost autonomous interceptors will play an increasingly important role in defending military bases, in maritime situations, at airports, energy facilities, government infrastructure, ports, border operations, and other critical assets against hostile drones and drone swarm attacks.

The Interceptor P-1 is being engineered to operate as part of ZenaTech's broader Counter-UAS ecosystem, integrating with the Company's AI-powered threat detection, classification, and autonomous swarm command software. The complete architecture is intended to enable a single operator to monitor, identify, prioritize, and respond to multiple airborne threats

simultaneously using coordinated autonomous interceptor drones.

ZenaTech expects to continue expanding the testing program throughout 2026 as development progresses toward future operational demonstrations and customer evaluations. Further updates will be provided as additional milestones are reached.

About ZenaTech

ZenaTech (Nasdaq: ZENA) (FSE: 49Q) (BMV: ZENA) is a technology company specializing in AI drone, Drone as a Service (DaaS), enterprise SaaS and Quantum Computing solutions for mission-critical applications for business, government and defense. Since 2017, the Company has leveraged its software development expertise and grown its drone design and manufacturing capabilities through ZenaDrone, to innovate and improve customer inspection, monitoring, safety, security, compliance, and surveying processes. With enterprise software customers using branded solutions in law enforcement, government, and industrial sectors, and drones being implemented in these plus agriculture, defense, and logistics sectors, ZenaTech's portfolio of solutions helps drive speed, accuracy, and cost savings. The Company operates through global offices in North America, Europe, Taiwan, and UAE, and is growing its DaaS business and global network of locations through acquisitions.

About ZenaDrone

ZenaDrone, a wholly owned subsidiary of ZenaTech, develops and manufactures autonomous drone solutions that can incorporate machine learning software, AI, predictive modeling, Quantum Computing, and other software and hardware innovations. Created to revolutionize the hemp farming sector, its specialization has grown to multifunctional drone solutions for surveying, monitoring, inspection, tracking, process automation, and defense applications.

Currently, the ZenaDrone 1000 drone is used for crop management applications and critical field cargo applications in the defense sector, the IQ Nano indoor drone is used for inventory management and security in the warehouse and logistics sectors, the IQ Square is an outdoor drone designed for power washing and inspections use in commercial and government sectors, and the IQ Quad is for land surveys. ZenaDrone operates three global manufacturing facilities in Arizona, Dubai, and Taiwan, and is advancing counter-UAS maritime interceptor drones and an integrated defense system.

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