NORTHERN PLAINS UAS TEST SITE

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Unmanned Aircraft Selected to Support Site Acceptance Testing of North Dakota's Statewide BVLOS Network

GRAND FORKS, N.D. – The Northern Plains UAS Test Site (NPUASTS) has selected Volansi's VOLY C10 for Site Acceptance Testing and use-case development for North Dakota's statewide beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) network. This aircraft will test installed network components, ensure safety and reliability of the network, perform use-case development flights, and help NPUASTS set the standard requirements for any aircraft seeking to fly on the network.

"We've talked about North Dakota's statewide BVLOS network as a turnkey product. Extensive testing and validation of the system during development is part of that," said Nicholas Flom, executive director of NPUASTS. "The network will be widely accessible to support public and commercial use cases because of this testing."

North Dakota's statewide BVLOS network will enable UAS (or drone) BVLOS flights across the state of North Dakota. Three leading aviation infrastructure companies – Collins Aerospace, a Raytheon Technologies Company; L3Harris Technologies; and Thales USA – were selected to work with NPUASTS to develop and employ the physical infrastructure of this first-of-its-kind network. Ensuring the safety and reliability of this network, as it is built out, will be essential.

"We are thrilled to be a part of this important initiative, the first of its kind in the U.S.," said Hannan Parvizian, CEO and Co-Founder of Volansi. "Not only does this state-driven initiative position North Dakota as a leader in BVLOS operations, it also supports the growth of unmanned aviation by creating a viable model that could be adopted across the country – and maybe even the world."

The VOLY C10 was selected from a pool of highly competitive proposals. The selected UAS was expected to allow for integrating different technologies, such as Command and Control (C2) links or onboard Detect and Avoid (DAA). It also would have the ability to support different payloads to exercise goals/objectives of the different Use Cases. The VOLY C10 met these expectations and provides for FAA advanced approvability in that it is in process to obtain an FAA durability and reliability type certification.

"Volansi's proposal was impressive," said Jim Cieplak, program manager of the statewide BVLOS network through the NPUASTS. "We feel confident that the VOLY C10 will not only meet our needs in testing the earliest stages of network deployment, but will support the integration of new technology as the project evolves."

About the Northern Plains UAS Test Site

The Northern Plains UAS Test Site (NPUASTS) is one of seven Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) test sites in the nation. Its mission is to collaborate with FAA and industry partners to develop systems, rules, and procedures to safely integrate unmanned aircraft into the National Airspace System without negatively impacting existing general or commercial aviation.

About Volansi

Volansi provides fast, on-demand aerial delivery services for time-critical shipments over long ranges. We build and operate long-range, heavy-payload drones for commercial, defense, and humanitarian applications. Leveraging drone technology as a transportation method, we help our customers gain control of their supply chain by delivering critical equipment (and aid) where it otherwise faced unpredictable delays– helping to save time, money, and lives. To learn more, visit www.volansi.com or follow us on Twitter (twitter.com/volans_i).