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DATRON SCOUT MICRO UAV LIFTS TO 13,000 FEET

New High Altitude Capabilities Enable Datron Scout to Deploy in Harsh Mountain and High-Desert Environments

WASHINGTON DC – AUGUST 16, 2011 – AUVSI UNMANNED SYSTEMS NORTH AMERICA -- Datron Scout, a lightweight quad rotor Micro Air Vehicle (MAV) designed for air reconnaissance and surveillance in harsh environments, today announced the availability of high-altitude propellers that enable the Scout to fly in locations up to 13,000 feet (3,962 meters). Driven by an interest to deploy Datron Scout in high-altitude environments including Afghanistan, Iraq and South America, the newest capabilities evolved due to a custom propeller designed for maximum efficiency in thin-air locations. The new propellers employ a unique pitch and extended length that allow Datron Scout to operate in high altitudes with virtually no compromise to performance and mission life. Official testing of the new capability was conducted in the Rocky Mountains of North America in July 2011.

“Our customers defined an interest in deploying Datron Scout at altitudes above our optimal performance level of 5,500 feet (1,676 meters),” said Chris Barter, program manager for Datron Scout. “The new propellers double Scout’s flying altitude while maintaining its expected performance. Given the Scout’s light weight and covert size it’s a significant technological accomplishment and provides customers with more value and flexibility to deploy Scout in every type of environment.”

Weighing only 2.6 lbs (1.17 kg), Datron Scout has a robust design with modular assembly and battery-powered brushless motors that enable it to silently “hover and stare” and follow any point of interest. Its carbon-fiber rotor blades easily fly in 40 mph (64 kph) winds and gusts up to 53 mph (85 kph), making it ideal for operation in inclement weather. Controlled from a tablet-PC, the Datron Scout combines a point-and-touch interface with intelligent applications for intuitive control and mission effectiveness – from mapping of new territories to nighttime surveillance using the Flir Tau 640 thermal imaging camera. Its mission reach of 1.5 miles (2.4 kilometers) is

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coupled with a 10x optical zoom camera for silent observation of an object 1.1 miles (1.8 kilometers) away and the ability to clearly identify points of interest in a large radius from a hover and stare position. Tool-less assembly means an operator can launch Datron Scout into any environment within minutes.

Datron Scout's high altitude capabilities were tested at 5,500 feet (1,676 meters), 9,000 feet (2,743 meters) and 13,000 feet (3,962 meters). The testing operator directed it through standard military and public safety mission objectives while achieving 20 m/s air speed and logging no issues with height and control performance. "During testing of the new propellers the consistency of Scout to perform up to its original specs with regard to maneuverability, mission life and our industry-leading ability to fly in high winds surpassed even our own expectations," added Barter.

Datron Scout will be featured at several upcoming tradeshow including: AUVSI Unmanned Systems North America (Booth #2729), DSEi (Booth #1039) and AUSA Expo (Booth #4149). For information about the Datron Scout or to schedule a demonstration please contact our worldwide sales team at sales@dtwc.com.

About Datron World Communications, Inc.

Datron World Communications Inc. delivers communications products and systems worldwide. The company's offerings enable governments, security forces and commercial users worldwide to establish and maintain critical voice, data and video connectivity. Known for their ease-of-use and reliability, Datron's products and systems are currently deployed in over 80 countries worldwide. Datron World Communications Inc. was established in 1971 and is headquartered in San Diego, California, USA. For more information, visit: www.dtwc.com.

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