Parallax sUAS Purchasing Policy

Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) such as the ELEV-8 v3 Quadcopter System are powerful and versatile machines. sUAS are useful for countless applications, including research and development, agriculture, mapping, and conservation. However, sUAS are also inherently hazardous devices that can cause harm to persons and property. Furthermore, sUAS are subject to numerous federal and (in some areas) state and local regulations. To help our customers operate sUAS in a safe and lawful manner, we ask each of you to read and acknowledge the following considerations. This is imperative to your safety and the safety of those you are supervising.

To achieve an acceptably low level of risk, steps must be taken to minimize exposure of persons and property to the hazards presented by sUAS. These hazards include spinning propellers and fast-moving aircraft. Before owning or operating any sUAS, it is imperative that all parties involved have a common understanding of safe and lawful practices. This includes students, instructors, parents, mentors, administrators, etc. involved in building, maintenance, and operation. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to ensure adequate safety policies have been put in place before any sUAS or components are unboxed. We recommend at minimum adopting the following policies & procedures:

- Ensure your insurance covers all intended sUAS activities (building, testing, flying, etc) for all persons and property who could be impacted by sUAS activities.
- Create a Safety & Supply Kit and keep it with you whenever testing or operating your UAS.
- Comply with the Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code. Print out the document, post it in a high-visibility area, and review it frequently.
- Read, post, and abide by the Guidelines for Indoor Flying (and Testing) tutorial. Note that the FAA does not regulate indoor UAS use.
- Whenever there are propellers and a battery on your sUAS (ie flying and testing), you must be prepared for it to take off, do not assume otherwise!

For Outdoor Operation:
- Read, post, and abide by the Guidelines for Outdoor Flying tutorial.
- Register your sUAV with the Federal Aviation Administration’s UAS Registry before flying outdoors.
- Understand and comply with National Airspace System regulations. Parallax’s National Airspace System (NAS) tutorial provides a great brief introduction.
Use the FAA’s B4UFLY App or Online Map before each outdoor flight to ensure you are in unrestricted airspace.

Read the entire FAA Memorandum on Education Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS); this 6 page document outlines when and with what conditions UAS can be legally operated in an educational context.

Finally, we expect our customers to implement an enforcement system to ensure that they stay current with organizational recommendations and government regulations. Compliance to these policies must not lapse over time. Most sUAS operators can tell you a story of a near miss or incident they had. This usually occurs not on their first flight, but days or weeks later as they get more comfortable with the sUAS. One example of an enforcement system would be to appoint a “safety officer” on a rotating basis and give them power to impose consequences for non-compliance. Remember that these policies are not for when things go as expected, but to keep persons and property safe when (not if) something unexpected occurs. By reviewing the above information and implementing a compliance system, you will be set up for a more safe and successful sUAS educational program.

By signing below, you agree that you have read the above information, including all referenced resources. You agree to abide by the outlined policies & procedures, and you agree to implement an enforcement system to ensure all parties involved with your program’s sUAS activities remain compliant for as long as the sUAS are utilized.

Signature: ___________________________________________ Date: ______________

Name (please print): ________________________________________________

Email Address: _____________________________________________________

Please sign (digitally or hard copy) this document and then email to sales@parallax.com or fax to (916) 624-8003. Please keep a copy for your records; as you must re-submit with each order.

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