Autonomous Aircrafts Can Bring Big Benefits, But Safe Integration is Needed

The U.S. Chamber Technology Engagement Center (C_TEC) collaborated with The Eno Center for Transportation on a report published this week on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). The report, "[Bridging the Gap: Sustaining UAS Progress While Pursuing a Regulatory Framework](#)," details how these autonomous aircrafts can offer significant economic benefits for consumers, as well as safety benefits for the public.

The big picture: UAS offer a stunning range of capabilities to connect people with goods and services that may normally be inaccessible to them. They can replace the human element for risky inspections, support firefighters and other first responders during emergencies, and deliver critical supplies to rural and remote communities. But until UAS are safely integrated into the National Airspace System (NAS), these opportunities cannot be fully realized.

Why it matters: The key to reaping the benefits of UAS is the safe and secure integration of UAS into the NAS. The report provides recommendations for industry leaders on how to leverage the large body of existing Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) work to develop procedures, identify risks, and train workers effectively in UAS. In addition, the report outlines recommendations to policymakers to facilitate safe integration of UAS.

Learn more: Check out C_TEC's recent [comments](#) to the U.S. Department of Transportation on the remote identification of UAS, which advocate for a commonsense approach to ensure that UAS can safely and securely operate in the United States in way that also facilitates innovation.