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Autonomous Akin



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Our newsletter reflects the focus of Akin’s cross-practice autonomous systems and advanced mobility team on developments in the regulatory, policy, trade, intellectual property, and cybersecurity and privacy spaces. Autonomous Akin brings you the latest news and developments so that you can keep a pulse on what is happening in government and industry that is impactful for your business. For our new readers, you can subscribe to future issues of this newsletter [here](#). Thank you!

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Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

Elevating the Industry: FAA Greenlights Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) Drone Delivery, Boosting Efficiency for Wing - *DroneLife*

“As the year draws to a close, drone delivery service Wing has announced a significant development. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has granted Wing an exemption that allows it to operate Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) without visual observers. This approval is a game-changer, making commercial residential drone delivery more commercially viable.”

[Read the Article](#)

Matternet OK'd to Fly BVLOS Drone Deliveries from Berlin Hospitals - *Aviation Week Network*

“Cargo drone delivery startup Matternet has received authorization from Luftfahrt-Bundesamt, Germany’s national civil aviation authority, to launch beyond-visual-line-of-sight (BVLOS) drone delivery operations of its M2 quadcopter between hospitals and laboratories in Berlin.”

[Read the Article](#)

Drone Deliveries: Florida Tech Showcases Autonomous Aircraft, Touts Future Economic Clout - *Yahoo News*

“Blades whirring, a hovering Flytrex hexacopter drone unspooled line above a Florida Institute of Technology tennis court, using a red hook to lower a yellow tote bag to the ground. Then the drone resumed its brief autonomous demonstration flight up to 100 feet above campus and descended for landing, wrapping up its package-delivery mission without human intervention.”

[Read the Article](#)

Amazon's Cloud Business and Aerodyne Team Up to Tap A \$15B Market - *Benzinga*

“Amazon is already committed to integrating robotics into its operations, focusing on drone deliveries and warehouse automation. With the Aerodyne collaboration, it would also be tapping into the drone space from the analytics angle.”

[Read the Article](#)

Advanced Air Mobility



Remotely Flown Cargo Plane Gets First Big Test from Reliable Robotics and Fedex - *Spokesman Review*

“Reliable Robotics Corp. said Wednesday that it’s flown a small cargo plane on loan from FedEx Corp. without a human on board, a step toward the autonomous flight startup winning regulatory approval for its remote-pilot system.”

[Read the Article](#)

DFW Airport and Overair to Explore EVTOL Operations - *Passenger Terminal Today*

“Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) in Texas and Overair have signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperatively explore the future of vertiport development and eVTOL aircraft operations within the DFW Metroplex. The partnership will include a feasibility assessment for integrating passenger eVTOL operations across the North Texas

region. eVTOL aircraft, like Overair's Butterfly, are being developed around the world with the aim of becoming the next step in urban air mobility, and creating advanced point-to-point electric air transit options."

[Read the Article](#)

Doroni's All-Electric Flying Car Gets Flight Certified in the US - *Electrek*

"Flying electric cars are not just for sci-fi movies. Miami-based Doroni Aerospace announced Friday its all-electric flying car, the Doroni H1, received official FAA Airworthiness Certification."

[Read the Article](#)

UrbanX Launches Air Taxi Plan for Miami-Dade County - *FutureFlight*

"Earlier this week, UrbanX Air, which is a subsidiary of Global Crossing Airlines Group, jointly announced with Eve plans to launch air taxi services in South Florida. In 2022, the Miami-based company signed a letter of intent covering potential orders for 200 of Eve's aircraft."

[Read the Article](#)

Honeywell-led Project OperA Aims to Bring AAM and Autonomous Flight to Europe - *Military and Aerospace Electronics*

"Honeywell in Phoenix has initiated Project OperA, securing funding from the European Union's SESAR 3 Joint Undertaking. The project, based at Honeywell's international development center in Brno, Czech Republic, aims to devise and validate practical solutions for safely integrating advanced air mobility (AAM) vehicles into European airspace."

[Read the Article](#)

Technology, Environment and Legislation



Electric Vehicles Improve Air Quality for Everyone but Have Less Impact in More Polluted Areas - *UCLA Newsroom*

"Although electric vehicle ownership is higher in wealthier neighborhoods than in disadvantaged ones, EVs improve air quality in all communities, a UCLA study found . . .the study determined that widespread EV travel meant disadvantaged communities experienced 40% more pollution-reduction than other areas, but that was a large percentage of a small number. Meanwhile, low-income neighborhoods still faced significantly higher pollution levels than other communities, because of the higher volume of all vehicle trips in their vicinity."

[Read the Article](#)

Chennai Floods: Drones Gather Data to Mitigate Flood in Future - *The New Indian Express*

“In order to get crucial data to tackle floods in the future, the industries department in tandem with the higher education department has deployed drones around Pallikaranai and Velachery to gather real-time data. Industries minister TRB Rajaa said drones have been pressed into action to get incidental data, which will be used to tackle pending issues, help clean up works and mitigate floods.”

[Read the Article](#)

Autonomy and Electric Vehicles



U.S. Department of Transportation Announces New Rural Autonomous Vehicle Research Program - *U.S. Department of Transportation*

“The U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT or the Department) announced a \$25 million funding opportunity for its Rural Autonomous Vehicle research program. Accredited universities are eligible to apply for this competitive, six-year cooperative agreement program.”

[Read the Press Release](#)

Detroit Unveils Wireless EV Charging Roadway - *Construction Dive*

“A transportation innovation district in Detroit recently demonstrated a wireless charging roadway, technology that is meant to allow EVs either moving or parked along the roadway to charge their batteries without plugging in.”

[Read the Article](#)

US Self-Driving Industry Seeks Federal Support, Cites China Risk - *Reuters*

“The U.S. Transportation Department needs to support the development of autonomous vehicles, a coalition of groups representing the industry warned on Thursday, saying the nascent industry risks losing out to competitors like China.”

[Read the Article](#)

Akin Thought Leadership



[Three New UK Laws Impacting Autonomous Vehicles, Digital Markets and Personal Data](#)
(November 30, 2023)

[Autonomous Akin Update - November 2023](#) (November 9, 2023)

[Autonomous Akin Update - October 2023](#) (October 6, 2023)

[Autonomous Akin Update - September 2023](#) (September 12, 2023)

[CPPA Takes Aim at Connected Cars in First-Ever Review](#) (August 23, 2023)

[Autonomous Akin Update - August 2023](#) (August 11, 2023)

[Congress Takes a Step Forward on Outbound Investment](#) (July 27, 2023)

[Autonomous Akin Update - July 2023](#) (July 6, 2023)

[Akin's Mid-Year TMT Report Provides Important Updates on Regulatory and Policy Developments for TMT Leaders](#) (May 25, 2023)

[Autonomous Akin Update - May 2023](#) (May 11, 2023)

[Autonomous Systems & Advanced Mobility: 2023 Trends & Predictions](#) (May 5, 2023)

[Kayo Sustainable Infrastructure Webinar Recording - Passcode: Fm%IX07T](#) (April 19, 2023)

Events

AUVSI XPONENTIAL 2024

April 22-25, 2024

San Diego, CA

XPONENTIAL is a yearly gathering of global leaders and end users in the uncrewed systems and robotics industry. Founded on the belief that cross-pollination drives innovation, it features opportunities to connect and problem-solve with experts across markets and domains.

Law-Tech Connect AUVSI Workshop

April 22, 2024

San Diego, CA

The Sky is Not the Limit: Space Is!

Akin partner [Jennifer Richter](#) will be a distinguished speaker on this panel. Join this group of space and spectrum experts as they explain the parallel universe of laws, regulations, governing bodies, frameworks, authorities and policies that govern what happens in space that affects aviation operations in the sky and on the ground.

Surf & Turf: Serving Up Autonomous Regulations

Akin partner [Hyongsoon Kim](#) will serve as the moderator for this panel. This panel of attorneys and key industry partners will provide an overview of the legal regimes applicable to autonomous land and sea and contrast them with those for aircraft.

Protection from Mayhem

Akin partner [Michelle Reed](#) will serve as the moderator for this panel. Join this group of experts as they address a range of topics that can keep your business, organization or endeavor legally compliant and protect you from mayhem.

Questions?

If you have any questions please contact your regular Akin lawyer or advisors or:



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