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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KDOT Aviation wins national safety award

The Kansas Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation was named the second-place winner in the Operations & Safety Organization category of the XCELLENCE Awards by the Association for Unmanned Vehicles Systems International (AUVSI) for its UAS Safety Risk Management Program. Winners were announced at AUVSI's XPONENTIAL awards ceremony on April 30 in Chicago.

KDOT established an UAS safety risk management program to implement advanced UAS operations statewide for more than 25 industry partners as one of 10 national leaders of the UAS Integration Pilot Program. The program implements UAS Standard Operating Procedures, training and safety management system to promote aviation safety. KDOT's program has been reviewed by the FAA and will continue to be used to meet complex UAS operation safety standards to further national UAS integration.

"We are honored to be recognized alongside national industry leaders in aviation safety and look forward to driving industry growth with fellow Xcellence award winners and IPP team members; Kansas State University, GBA, Fortem Technologies and the rest of the Kansas UAS Joint Task Force," said Bob Brock, KDOT Director of Aviation.

AUVSI's XCELLENCE Awards honor innovators in the unmanned systems industry, including individuals and organizations with a commitment to advancing technology, leading and promoting safe operations and developing programs.

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