

## 2.0 Executive Summary

This document of Safety Assurance has been created to reflect the process and outcome of a third party safety review and assessment that has been conducted to ensure that the preparations of the drone operators (at this iteration relating purely to Skyports DS) of the flight trials proposed by the CAELUS project are adequate supporting a decision that flight trials are safe to proceed.

A full review and assessment has been conducted by the AGS Airports Limited Group Head of Assurance and Senior Safety Consultant for Atkins Ltd., across all aspects including technical evaluation of drone operator hardware, documentation – including safety cases and operations manuals – hazard identification workshops and tabletop exercises.

During the assessment, the safety assurance team convened a range of meetings with various project partners to collect the necessary information needed for a well-rounded evaluation of preparedness and planning. As part of the assurance assessments, it was verified that the Skyports DS team possess the necessary certifications, licenses and training required by the CAA. They demonstrate a sound understanding of best practices, operational limitations and risk management strategies, ensuring safe and proficient drone operations.

The project has implemented a comprehensive risk management system and a full Risk ID workshop was held which included cross consortium input. It was verified that Skyports DS conduct thorough risk assessments, identify potential hazards and develop robust mitigation strategies. Contingency plans and emergency response protocols are well-defined, enabling effective and swift action in case of unexpected events.

Operational and safety criteria assessed over the course of the assurance review were found to be actively in place and functioning as intended. Further to this, the review found the robustness of safety procedures and protocols to be well documented and monitored for continuous improvement. Further information regarding this can be found in Appendix A.



It has been determined that a strong safety culture exists both within the Skyports DS and across the CAELUS consortium, consistently demonstrating a commitment to safety as a top priority. All management and personnel exhibit a proactive approach to

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identifying and mitigating risks and fostering a safety-conscious environment with a collaborative, positive attitude toward compliance monitoring and continuous improvement.



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