PRESS RELEASE

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Lone DTI Operator Controls Multiple Unmanned Vehicles in Navy Demonstration.

(Ranlo, North Carolina) Defense Technologies, Inc. (DTI) played a vital role in the success of a recent NAVAIR Human Factors Demonstration that took place at NASA's Wallops Island Space Port Flight Facility located in Virginia.

Multiple "Kestrel" Unmanned Aerial Systems, manufactured by DTI, were flown as surrogate vehicles. One Unmanned Air Vehicle (UAV) simulated a High Altitude Long Endurance UAV (HALE UAV) while the other UAV functioned as a Tactical UAV (TUAV). These two aircraft worked with other unmanned system types to track a ship posing as a smugglers ship loaded with contraband from a foreign port, where US Forces are denied access.

The Open Unmanned Mission Interface (Open-UMI) software developed by DTI, was used to simultaneously task the unmanned systems to missions received from a central command and control location including the HALE UAV and TUAV. The HALE's role in the mission was to fly a typical flight pattern, and then be re-tasked to fly over the ship and provide a RADAR signature. After the ship left the port, the TUAV was tasked to follow the ship, identify it, and assure that the vessel being continuously tracked is the ship with the suspected contraband.

This demo marked a historical milestone for Unmanned Vehicles and DTI, as it was the first time multiple Unmanned Vehicles have been autonomously tasked and monitored by a single common control station and a single operator. Also, this was the first time that common control stations operating DTI's "Open-UMI" software had received missions from a centralized mission control system that directed multiple vehicles to a common mission objective.

"The achievement of this Navy task takes Unmanned Systems to the next level. No longer should the operational responsibilities of a single vehicle tie up a multitude of warfighters and equipment. This proven technology allows for one lone operator to command and control multiple unmanned systems of different types and objectives", stated John Torbett, Vice President, Business Development, "this one achievement catapults the deployment of future autorouting technologies for unmanned systems. What once was considered Science Fiction is now at our doorstep."

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