NATCA Representatives at AUVSI Xponential Conference and FAA Drone Symposium

From April 25-28, Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge, Director of Safety and Technology Tom Adcock, NATCA’s National UAS Rep Jimmy Smith, and NATCA’s National UAM/UTM Rep Will Hutson represented NATCA at the Xponential Conference in Orlando, Fla. hosted by the Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI). NATCA joined breakout sessions on a variety of topics of interest throughout the event.

On April 28, the FAA hosted a large, co-located event known as the FAA Drone Symposium. NATCA attended the event which focused on integration challenges, the recently released recommendations from the beyond visual line of sight advisory and rulemaking committee (BVLOS ARC), the Air Traffic Organization’s (ATO) role in UAS activities, and standardization efforts with global aviation organizations such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Read more [here](#).

**PHOTO:** (left to right) Tom Adcock, Jimmy Smith, Will Hutson, and Andrew LeBovidge.

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Safety and Technology Spotlight: UAM

Urban Air Mobility (UAM) National Article
114 Representative Will Hutson (Denver ATCT, DEN) provided an update regarding UAM, describing our Union’s high level of involvement in protecting the integrity of the National Airspace System and the members who operate it regarding UAM. Hutson stated, “Over the last decade, the UAM industry has grown from a handful of electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft start-ups to multiple new entrants, established companies, operators, infrastructure providers, regulators, and other stakeholders.”

Initial UAM operations are projected to begin in 2024, if not sooner, Hutson says, with eventual large-scale operations taking place in the NAS as technology, and implementation efforts allow. “Integrating these groundbreaking activities into the NAS will require strong collaboration between stakeholders to ensure a safe, secure, and efficient outcome for our workforce and the flying public,” he said.

Read more [here](#).

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**CLT Members Give Tour of New Facility to Staff Members of S.C. Rep. Ralph Norman**

Charlotte ATCT (CLT) FacRep Anthony Schifano and CLT legislative representative Stephen Cooper gave a tour of the new CLT tower and TRACON facilities earlier this month to a group of staffers of South Carolina Congressman Ralph Norman. Two members of the staff were from Rep. Norman’s Washington, D.C., office, while the others work in the congressman’s Rock Hill, S.C., office.
“During the tour, we covered the intricacies of the Charlotte airport and the challenges on the airport surface,” Schifano said. “We explained the advantages of the new tower (370 feet tall vs. 150 feet in old tower; 850-square-foot cab vs 400) and the adequate room in the entire facility, including the 40,000-square-foot base building, etc.). Additionally, we talked about the new systems at Charlotte and how important stable, predictable funding is when trying to implement new technology. The staff was very impressed with the overall operation and the focus of the entire facility during the IFR day we had.”

NATCA Members Join Professional Women Controllers Training Conference

The Professional Women Controllers (PWC), Inc., hosted its 44th Annual Training Conference, in Charlotte, N.C., on April 20-22. NATCA representatives joined other aviation safety professionals from across the FAA and NAV CANADA for a week of training and mentorship. NATCA was a diamond sponsor of the event. NATCA National Child Care Representative Jennifer Malloy (Cleveland Center, ZOB) hosted a booth at the event and talked to attendees about programs and benefits available to FAA employees related to nursing mothers, parental leave, childcare subsidies, and more.

PHOTO: (right to left) Jen Malloy and FAA Program Manager Barb McCready