Discretionary Enforcement of Remote Identification Ends Soon

Remote ID

February 26, 2024 Ben Flesher

On March 16, 2024, the FAA's discretionary enforcement period for remote identification (Remote ID) of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) ends. The following is a quick refresher on the topic and how to comply.

Q: Who needs to comply with Remote ID?

A: All radio-controlled aircraft that weigh more than 0.55 pounds (250 grams) must comply. UAS include both traditional model aircraft and drones.

Q: *How do I comply?*

A: The three ways to comply are to operate a Standard Remote ID UAS; attach an after-market broadcast module to the UAS; or fly at an FAA-Recognized Identification Area (FRIA).

Q: How do I know if my UAS is equipped with Standard Remote ID?

A: Most in our community will not meet the Remote ID rule with this option, because only complete, off-the-shelf UAS will have standard Remote ID built in. If you do purchase a complete system and are unsure if it meets the requirements, you can search its serial number at this site: https://uasdoc.faa.gov/listdocs. If it is not found, it does not meet the requirements for standard Remote ID.

Q: How do I comply with the rule through the broadcast module option?

A: There are several broadcast modules currently available. They differ in price, features, and options, so it is important to choose the module that works best for you. Visit https://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/2023/03/29/remote-id-broadcast-module-update. It might be a helpful resource.

Q: *Do I need to purchase a module for each of my aircraft?*

A: No. Broadcast modules can be moved from aircraft to aircraft. You certainly can purchase more than one, but recreational operators are not required to have a module for each of their aircraft. Be sure to add the broadcast module to your FAA DroneZone dashboard.

Q: Where can I find a FRIA or determine whether my flying site has this status?

A: The AMA Club Finder tool has a filter option for FRIAs at www.modelaircraft.org/club-finder. You can search by city/state and check the box next to FRIA sites; only sites that are FRIA approved will be included in the search. The FAA's UAS Facility Map has also been updated to include FRIA sites across the country.

Q: How do I apply for FRIA status for my flying site?

A: Please send an email to fria@modelaircraft.org to get started.

The AMA Government Affairs department has a blog with additional information that we encourage members to regularly review. Visit https://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov to remain up to date.

TagsFRIAremote identification