



Salt Lake City  
International Airport

Maureen Riley  
Executive Director  
Salt Lake City Dept. of Airports

**For Immediate Release**  
December 31, 2015

Contact: Nancy Volmer  
801-209-5774 or  
Bianca Shreeve  
801-575-2650

**AIRPORT ALERTS PUBLIC OF DRONE SAFETY MEASURES**

**Salt Lake City, UT**— With an estimated 1.6 million unmanned aircraft systems—commonly known as drones—sold in North America in 2015, airports across the country are reminding hobbyists to take precautions when operating drones near airports.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recently established requirements to register drones as well as a notification process to alert airports before operating a drone within a 3- to 5-mile radius of the air traffic control tower. The FAA Salt Lake City Air Traffic Control Tower will not allow a drone to be flown within a 3-mile radius of an air traffic control tower. If the airport does not have an air traffic control tower—such as the South Valley Regional Airport and the Tooele Airport—drones may be allowed to operate within a 5-mile radius of an airport after prior notification.

Hobbyists planning to operate a drone within the restricted area must notify the airport 24 hours prior to flying the drone. Regulations apply to drones of all sizes from .55 lbs to 55 lbs. When notifying the airport, the drone operator should be prepared to provide the time, location and duration of the drone flight. In addition, the operator must agree to keep the drone in sight at all times during the flight and to comply with FAA registration requirements as posted at [www.faa.gov/uas/registration](http://www.faa.gov/uas/registration). The FAA requires owners to register drones by Feb. 19, 2016.

If the proposed operation does not present a hazard, the airport will log the notification and agree to the safe operation of the drone. To notify the Salt Lake City International Airport, Tooele Airport and South Valley Regional Airport, call (801) 556-4082 or email [Dave.Teggins@slcgov.com](mailto:Dave.Teggins@slcgov.com). For more information and to view maps of restricted areas of operation around an airport, go to [www.slcairport.com](http://www.slcairport.com).

# # #

*The Salt Lake City International Airport serves 22 million passengers per year and is the 27<sup>th</sup> busiest airport in North America. The airport is undergoing a \$1.8 billion redevelopment program that will be completed in 2020.*