



[HTTPS://WWW.BENNING.ARMY.MIL](https://www.benning.army.mil)
U.S. ARMY MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



MCoE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

CONTACT: Sue Ulibarri, (supunnee.ulibarri.civ@mail.mil), 706-545-2237 or 706-604-0468

DATE: May 28, 2013

MEDIA RELEASE: Fort Benning to host Georgia Tech Research Institute and Maneuver Battle Lab joint unmanned aircraft systems event

FORT BENNING, Ga. – The Maneuver Center of Excellence and Georgia Tech Research Institute will perform multiple unmanned aircraft systems test flights June 3-7 at McKenna Urban Operations Complex test site. Media day is 1 - 3 p.m. June 5 at McKenna Urban Operations Complex test site.

The joint endeavor's purpose is to perform experiments that will further GTRI research on automation of collaborative UAS operations. The demonstration is designed to simulate a growing UAS threat to U.S. forces, test its capabilities for accuracy and validate the system so it can be an asset for future Army operational assessments, officials said. This capability was initially demonstrated the 2010 Robotics Rodeo. Ongoing research seeks to expand collaborative operations to four or more aircraft, and to demonstrate autonomous, collaborative task assignment approaches.

This test will also demonstrate the capability and benefits of flying multiple unmanned aerial vehicles in autonomous flight. A motivating factor in conducting the event derives from, as the number and variety of UAS in the airspace grows, the need to resolve airspace conflicts between aircraft.

In addition, automated coordination between platforms is needed to reduce operator workload and allow a single operator to manage multiple platforms. The GTRI is investigating automation of collaborative UAS operations with internal research and development efforts. Objectives of the event include: performing simultaneous, autonomous UAV flights with four Piper Cub UAVs testing collaborative autonomy algorithms and performing test flights with the Boomer UAV platform.

Media pick up time is 1230 June 5 at the Harmony Church gate. Media interested attending the event must call the Public Affairs Office at 706-545-2237 or 706-604-0468.

The MCoE also conducts research, development and experimentation to ensure our future Army Maneuver Force is prepared and equipped to fight and win in a complex future environment. Through doctrine development, leveraging emerging technology and partnering with industry, the Maneuver Center is an advocate for the Maneuver Force.

Since 1918, Fort Benning has been an integral part of training our Army. Today, Fort Benning and the Maneuver Center of Excellence provide trained, agile, adaptive and ready Soldiers and leaders for our Army at war, while developing capabilities for the Maneuver Force and the individual Soldier and providing a world-class quality of life for our Soldiers, Civilians and Army Families.

####

Visit the Maneuver Center of Excellence online at:
www.benning.army.mil

Find us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/fortbenningfans