



Demand for drone operations increases by 370%

- ENAIRe, as the national air navigation service provider, manages drone flight requests to guarantee the operational safety of manned aircraft
- ENAIRe coordinated 6,101 professional drone operations in 2021 versus 1,646 in 2020, with Catalonia being the region where the most requests were processed, with 1,365, followed by Madrid with 1,109 and the Canary Islands with 793
- As part of the commitment in its 2025 Flight Plan to customer satisfaction, requests for aerial works, including those with drones, are processed through the planea.enaire.es website
- In 2021, more than 4,000 new users registered with ENAIRe Planea
- The growth rate of the drone sector accelerated in 2021, a trend that is continuing so far in 2022

Madrid, 3 February 2022

Since the launch in July 2020 of ENAIRe Planea, the platform specifically designed by ENAIRe to make it easier to apply for and coordinate operations with drones, manned aircraft and other airspace uses, the number of registered users has risen exponentially to 8,700, an increase of 50%.

The planea.enaire.es website allows professional drone operators to submit their aeronautical safety study (EAS/AERO) so their request can be processed by the Operations Management units and the towers and air control centres involved in the operation.

Activity in the drone sector has been growing exponentially in recent years in Spain. In 2021, more than 4,000 new users registered on ENAIRe Planea. 70% of professional drone flight requests came through this page, a figure that



rose to 86% in December 2021. In 2021, the page was visited on average 6,400 times a month.

Of all the applications received at ENAIRe Planea, 94% were for remotely piloted aircraft (UAS), 4% for manned aircraft and 2% for other airspace uses.

As part of the Digitisation Plan to manage aeronautical information, which is included in ENAIRe's Strategic Plan (the 2025 Flight Plan), ENAIRe Planea is integrated with other tools from ENAIRe's aeronautical information service, such as ENAIRe Drones (drones.enaire.es) and Insignia (insignia.enaire.es), which provide information on airspace classes, restricted areas, NOTAMs and other useful features for drone and general aviation pilots and airspace users.

In addition, in 2021 ENAIRe coordinated 6,101 operations involving remotely-piloted aircraft. This is the sum of all flight operations in controlled airspace and flights beyond visual range, called BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Sight), in uncontrolled areas, not including model aeroplane activities. If we take controlled airspace operations into account, the number of operations coordinated was 5,426.

This is an increase of 370% compared to 2020, when 1,646 operations were managed. It should be noted that Spain was in a state of alarm during much of 2020, and that ENAIRe reinforced the staffing dedicated to processing the requests received so as to swiftly respond to the large increase in the number of operations requested.

Through its work, ENAIRe continues to support the growth of the drone sector. Catalonia is the region where the most requests were processed, with 1,365, followed by Madrid with 1,109 and the Canary Islands in third place with 793.

About ENAIRe

ENAIRe is the air navigation service provider in Spain.

As a company of the Ministry of Transport, Mobility and the Urban Agenda, it provides en route control services for all flights and overflights from five control centres in Madrid, Barcelona, Seville, Gran Canaria and Palma, as well as approach services to every airport in the country.

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In addition, 45 control towers receive ENAIRe's communication, navigation and surveillance services, and 21 airports, including the country's busiest, rely on its aerodrome control services.

ENAIRe is Europe's fourth largest air traffic manager. Since 1 January 2022, it has chaired the A6 Alliance, a coalition of air navigation providers responsible for over 80% of European air traffic, and which is seeking to modernise the air traffic management system. It is also a member of other international alliances promoting the Single European sky, such as SESAR Joint Undertaking, SESAR Deployment Manager, ITEC, CANSO and ICAO.

ENAIRe has received the highest score in Europe on the aviation safety key performance indicator. It has also been awarded the EFQM 500 Seal for its safe, efficient, innovative and sustainable management of air navigation services.