



**TACTIEN
GROUP**

USE CASE

PART 108 PROGRAM PREP



**Preparing your Program for Part 108
Operations**

www.tactiengroup.com



Contents

Introduction 3

Upcoming Industry Trends 4

Tactien's Approach 5

Execution Plan 6

Support Level Packages 7

FAQs 9



BVLOS Shielded Ops

Shielded areas are defined (in the proposed § 108.205) to include infrastructure such as power lines, bridges, pipelines, railroad tracks, substations, and other infrastructure.



1,320 lbs. MGTOW

Under the FAA's proposed Part 108 rule (for BVLOS operations), the maximum weight of a UAS (including payload) is 1,320 lbs (≈ 599 kg)



Corporate-Centric Programs

Rather than focusing on individual remote pilots (as under Part 107), the responsibility for compliance shifts to the operating entity (company, corporation, organization).



Introduction



Executive Summary

With Part 108 now in comment review, the industry faces its clearest signal yet that scalable BVLOS operations are approaching. This phase marks the closest thing stakeholders have to a definitive regulatory timeline. Industry has been waiting for this for over 15 years. Organizations need to be proactive while waiting for the rule making to remain at the forefront.

Start Operations Now

Whether your future operations envision full alignment under Part 108 or you intend to leverage alternate regulatory pathways—such as Part 91, 44807, etc.—the moment to determine your aircraft, establish your concepts of operation (CONOPS), and stand up your UAS program is now. Doing so will ensure your organization is not caught unprepared or left behind when the final rules are enacted.

Did you know it's possible to operate in a "Part 108-like" manner even under today's frameworks? Tactien is here to transfer our knowledge to your organization, so your team can be a leader in Part 108 when it gets here, or to leverage existing regulations if we mutually determine that is the

better pathway for you.

Partnering with Tactien's Subject Matter Expert (SME) services empowers organizations to strategically establish their Part 108 programs while maximizing cost-efficiency. Tactien's team delivers deep operational and regulatory experience, guiding you through every step—from aircraft selection and CONOPS development to best-in-class operational integration. Central to Tactien's approach is a focus on measurable ROI: their experts help streamline your program development, avoid costly missteps, and ensure your investments yield tangible, long-term benefits. This combination of regulatory acumen and a ROI-centric mindset not only accelerates operational readiness but also positions your organization as a leader in scalable BVLOS

01

Upcoming Industry Trends

PART 108 IS JET FUEL FOR AIRCRAFT OEMS

Third-party Vetting is Imperative

Historically, the commercial (large) UAS arena has been marked by scarcity, with only a handful of OEMs offering aircraft with economic capability for true commercial viability. Organizations seeking to operate beyond visual line-of-sight (BVLOS) or to scale their UAS programs were often constrained by limited choices. Part 108 is jet fuel for the Total Addressable Market (TAM) for UAS OEMs. Manufacturers are far more motivated to enter that market segment now since the masses will be able to utilize such systems.

Yet, this new era brings with it an imperative for discernment. The commercial UAS sector has long been marred by volatility and disappointment. Promises of game-changing capabilities, bold claims of regulatory compliance, and visions of seamless integration have, too often, given way to under-delivered products, poor support, and companies vanishing amid bankruptcy. The challenge now is not just to choose among a growing suite of aircraft, but to do so with clarity and caution—especially as the stakes rise and organizations invest more capital per aircraft purchase than ever before.

Vetting UAS OEMs has become critical. With every incremental dollar spent, the repercussions of a misstep multiply. A failed program due to an unreliable platform (and OEM support) can set back organizational progress by years or even destroy

SUAS OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN MASTERED, UAS OPERATIONS ARE UNCHARTED FOR MOST

Evolving Crew Competency Requirements are not Trivial

Typically, Part 107 operations consist of a two-person crew overseeing sub-55-pound aircraft. These operations are straightforward, focused on visual line-of-sight missions with clear roles and relatively simple training requirements. This familiarity has allowed industry leaders to master sUAS operations with confidence.

In contrast, Part 108 introduces an entirely new framework that mirrors the operational rigor of current Part 91 and 44807 waivers—structures borrowed from manned and military aviation. Designed for larger, more complex aircraft and scalable BVLOS operations, Part 108 emphasizes multi-crew teams, enhanced safety protocols, and advanced mission planning. These requirements call for a significant increase in flight crew competency, demanding skills in coordination, communication, and risk management that most commercial entities have not previously encountered or practiced at scale.

Organizations who understand and prepare for this challenge—rather than procrastinating—will be best positioned to safely scale and innovate as the scaled BVLOS era unfolds.



02

Tactien's Approach

Customer-centric ROI

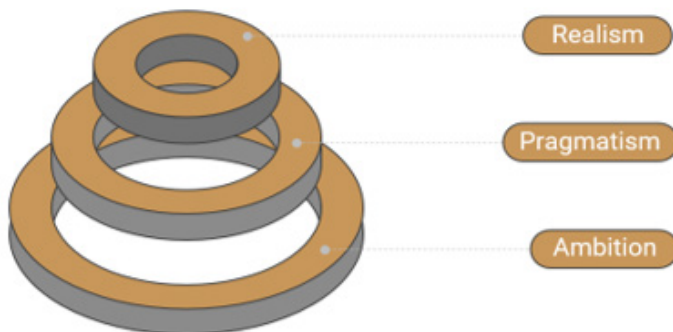
Success begins with honesty and transparency in understanding what your pain points are. We work backwards with clients to first define the business case. Through team collaboration, Tactien co-creates the specific business case centered on positive Return-on-Investment. Then, we help you develop a solution set that is actionable, reliable, and future-proof. While we may not be part of your internal team, we are an extension of support, bolstering your success.

No two end-user organizations are alike, and we recognize that a one-size-fits-all approach will never work. We invest the time in understanding who your organization is, your specific challenges, and then talk about getting to work. Your success is our success.

Our appetite for innovation is marked by an ambitious yet pragmatic approach. At Tactien, we believe that true innovation is not only about reaching for the sky but also about understanding the ground beneath our feet. This dual focus ensures that our pioneering solutions are as practical as they are visionary. By combining a forward-thinking mindset with a realistic assessment of current capabilities,



Mentality & Culture



The Tactien Group, a prominent player in aviation consulting, recognizes the intricate web of challenges and bottlenecks that often elude the understanding of industry stakeholders. For customers grappling with the complexities of UAS technologies, volatile industry trends, and regulatory compliance, the aviation landscape can be overwhelming. It's akin to navigating a vast sky with limited visibility.

However, realism doesn't mean stagnation. The Tactien Group combines pragmatism with ambition. TTG develop strategies that scale, but not recklessly. The growth trajectory must mirror a pace of measurable achievements. It's about taking flight, not in blind leaps, but with calculated wingspan.

03

Execution Plan

“ You don’t need to wait for Part 108 to get airborne. Leveraging Part 91 now gets you airborne before 108 rulemaking.

The Tactien Group executes engagements through a structured yet flexible methodology designed to meet each client’s unique operational and strategic needs. Our process begins with a comprehensive assessment phase—active listening sessions with the customer to surface pain points, goals, and long-term aspirations. This discovery effort enables us to establish clear objectives and align program vision with broader organizational strategies. We then translate these insights into a tailored strategic roadmap, factoring in operational priorities, regulatory requirements, and financial implications. Each solution is stress-tested through scenario planning and risk assessment to ensure resilience against industry shifts, regulatory changes, and emerging technologies.

Following strategy alignment, we move into solution design and implementation support. This includes developing standard operating procedures, training frameworks, and risk mitigation strategies, while also vetting technologies, contractors, and regulatory pathways on the client’s behalf. Our SMEs provide hands-on support with waiver applications, proof-of-concept demonstrations, and integration of UAS into existing workflows. Throughout execution, Tactien emphasizes cost-consciousness, clear communication, and measurable milestones. Deliverables are converted into actionable steps with accountability mechanisms in place, ensuring progress remains on track and outcomes are tangible. Importantly, our team continuously monitors results and adapts to changing conditions, ensuring that solutions remain aligned with customer objectives and industry best practices.

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS)

SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

TACTIEN
GROUP

Table of Contents

SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MANUAL (SMM)

1. SMS PURPOSE AND SCOPE	6
2. SMS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	11
3. SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TRAINING	14
4. SAFETY REPORTING	16
5. INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS	18
6. SAFETY RISK MANAGEMENT	21
7. COMMUNICATIONS	27
8. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING	28
9. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	29
10. FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAW	30
11. EXECUTIVE REVIEW	31

FLIGHT OPERATIONS MANUAL (FOM)

FOREWORD	33
1. INTRODUCTION	35
2. SAFETY	37
3. GENERAL INFORMATION & SYSTEM DESCRIPTION	41
4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	45
5. NORMAL OPERATING PROCEDURES	49
6. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES & FAILURES	53
7. TRAINING	57

ACCIDENT/INCIDENT RESPONSE MANUAL (AIR)

INTRODUCTION	59
AIR PLAN PREREQUISITE	60
TRAINING AND TESTING	61
UNMANNED AIRCRAFT EMERGENCY (FLY-AWAY)	63
ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SCENE MANAGEMENT	64
UASP MANAGER CHECKLIST	65
NON-EMERGENCY OPERATIONAL EVENT	66
NON-EMERGENCY MALFUNCTIONS OR LOSS OF RADIO COMMUNICATIONS	67
CONTACTS	68

Part 91 SECTIONS

69

AVIATION TRAINING MANUAL (ATM)

1. INTRODUCTION	72
2. QUALIFICATIONS	74
3. SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS	78
4. FLIGHT TRAINING	79
5. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES & FAILURES	84
6. SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	89

SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM APPENDIX MANUAL (SAM)

1. SMS APPENDIX PURPOSE AND SCOPE	97
A. ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS	98
B. AVIATION ALPHABET	99
C. UAS FLIGHT OPERATIONS CHECKLIST	100
D. UAS OPERATION RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET	102
E. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION & RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET	103
F. SWISS DRONES SPECIFICATION PACKAGE	107
G. PTERO PROFESSIONAL SPECIFICATION PACKAGE	109
H. RESOLUTE SPECIFICATION PACKAGE	112
I. HOB SPECIFICATION PACKAGE	115
J. INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICE RESOURCES	122
L. FULL WEBSITE ADDRESSES	123

< 2 >

04

Support Level Packages

PART 108 STRATEGY & PROGRAM STAND-UP SERVICES

To address each customer's unique requirements, Tactien offers tailored support packages, organized in progressive tiers that guide organizations from initial market exploration through to fully deployed UAS operations, with each level calibrated to the client's desired degree of engagement and program maturity.

LEVEL 1

- ✓ Requirements Definition
- ✓ Industry Search & Aircraft Down-Selection
- ✓ Technical Validation
- ✓ OEM Evaluation
- ✓ Pros & Cons Analysis
- ✓ Recommendation Report

 **Result:** Customer receives a clear, data-driven recommendation for the best aircraft platform and vendor.

LEVEL 2

- ✓ Level 1, plus:
- ✓ Requirements Definition
- ✓ CONOPS Development
- ✓ Business Case & ROI Analysis

 **Result:** Customer receives a validated operational plan and business case that supports decision-making and program expansion.

LEVEL 3

- ✓ Level 1, 2, plus:
- ✓ Approval to Fly (e.g., Part 91 COA)
- ✓ Flight Crew Training

 **Result:** Customer achieves rapid program launch with certified crews ready to operate safely and compliantly.

LEVEL 4

- ✓ Level 1, 2, 3, plus:
- ✓ Continued Crew Proficiency
- ✓ Use Case Refinement
- ✓ Regulatory Transition Preparation

 **Result:** Customer gains a long-term, scalable program that evolves with operational and regulatory needs.

Level 1: Program Requirements & Industry Down-Selection

- **Requirements Definition:** Collaborate with the customer to precisely document operational needs, mission requirements, and constraints.
- **Industry Search & Aircraft Down-Selection:** Conduct a comprehensive survey of available platforms; identify and shortlist candidate aircraft aligned with mission criteria and regulatory needs.
- **Technical Validation:** Perform hands-on evaluation and testing of shortlisted aircraft to assess capabilities, reliability, and maintainability.

- **OEM Evaluation:** Rigorously interview manufacturers to understand company stability, support structure, and long-term viability.
- **Pros & Cons Analysis:** Compile insights from both platform testing and OEM vetting to provide a clear comparative assessment.
- **Recommendation Report:** Deliver a comprehensive report detailing findings and recommending the optimal solution based on technical, operational, and business factors.

Level 2: Operational Planning & ROI Case Development

- **CONOPS Development:** Work with the customer to architect tailored Concepts of Operation (CONOPS) for targeted use cases, ensuring regulatory and strategic alignment.
- **Business Case & ROI Analysis:** Conduct financial modelling and scenario analysis to demonstrate return on investment and justify program expansion.

Level 3: Program Stand-Up & Flight Approval

- **Approval to Fly:** Establish immediate operational approval (e.g., obtain Part 91 Certificate of Authorization) to enable program launch and early flights.
- **Flight Crew Training:** Deliver training modules designed for complex UAS operations, elevating crew proficiency in both regulatory compliance and flight safety.

Level 4: Ongoing Support & Program Maturation

- **Continued Crew Proficiency:** Provide ongoing training, assessment, and refinement to ensure the flight team adapts to evolving operational demands.
- **Use Case Refinement:** Support the customer in expanding and optimizing operational scenarios as the program matures.
- **Regulatory Transition Preparation:** Prepare the program for transition to full Part 108 operations or sustained operations under Part 91/Section 44807, based on strategic objectives and regulatory evolution.



1. What qualifies the Tactien team to advise my program on larger/complex UAS operations?

Answer: Tactien's qualifications stem from a robust foundation of expertise, with our team collectively amassing over 100 years of hands-on experience in aviation operations—particularly within the realm of critical infrastructure. Using UAS, we have led some of the nation's largest and most intricate operations across the National Airspace (NAS), ranging from BVLOS 44807 missions, Part 91 COA operations, Group 1-3 UAS deployments, and complex proof-of-concept projects with major utility companies. Our portfolio also includes collaborations with numerous government agencies including the Department of Defense, giving us unique insight into both the operational and regulatory nuances that shape advanced UAS programs. This legacy of achievement, coupled with our ongoing commitment to excellence, is what empowers us to guide your initiative toward safe and innovative UAS operations the yield positive ROI.

2. How does Tactien's platform screening methodology reduce risk for my UAS program?

Answer: We employ a structured, data-driven scoring process that benchmarks candidate aircraft against your mission's unique criteria. Most notably, the OEM has to pass our "smell test" before we are ready to put our name on it, for you. We ask the uncomfortable questions based on past experience, force the OEM to validate their aircraft in front of us. This is far more than a test flight. Our team meets their team. We uncover the hard truths about how the company operates, how the aircraft is built, and what pitfalls may come from a relationship between you (the customer) and them. This is a 360 assessment of the entire solution from the OEM, not just a review of their specification sheet.

3. How does Tactien guide clients through the regulatory maze of Part 108, 44807, and Part 91?

Answer: Our regulatory pathway mapping is both strategic and tactical, provided by the very people who operated under such regulations from the very beginning. We provide customized guidance and a clear action plan for waiver applications, airspace integration, and crew qualification, smoothing your route through even the most complex regulatory processes. In the event that the customer decides to utilize Tactien for the actual execution of such regulatory pathway, Tactien has strategically partnered with the industry's leading regulatory consulting agency, responsible for the majority of such authorizations to date. This partner works alongside Tactien to execute the procedure determined.

4. In what ways does Tactien support program training and operational stand-up?

Answer: Tactien personnel have been responsible for the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Safety Management System(s) for some of the largest and most complex UAS operations in the National Airspace (NAS) to date. The team regularly starts from nothing and assembles industry-leading UAS flight operation teams. Our launch support encompasses hands-on training, bespoke SOP development, and seamless SMS integration. We stay with you through the initial roll-out and provide ongoing performance monitoring to ensure sustainable program success.

5. Why should I trust Tactien with my program as Part 108 regulations evolve?

Answer: Tactien has a proven track record of successfully navigating regulatory transitions. Our finger is on the pulse of rule-making and industry capability. Our clients benefit from our proactive strategies that anticipate changes—positioning your program for compliance and operational excellence as new regulations take effect.

6. What operational challenges can Tactien help me address that others might miss?

Answer: We don't just solve the obvious. Our multidisciplinary team is skilled in uncovering hidden bottlenecks, optimizing your workflows, and ensuring system resilience—from technical integration to regulatory strategy—unlocking the future-proof value of your UAS investment.

7. Can Tactien's services be tailored to my organization's unique needs?

Answer: Absolutely. Every utility and infrastructure operation is different. We take the time to listen, understand your distinct challenges, and craft solutions—whether in CONOPS design, regulatory compliance, or training—that are customized for your organizational goals.

8. How do I get started with Tactien, and what can I expect in our first engagement?

Answer: Simply reach out for a complimentary pathway consultation. Our experts will conduct a focused discussion to understand your specific needs, walk you through our proven approach, and outline tailored pathways to regulatory and operational success. Together, we'll set your program on course for next-generation excellence that is properly built right, the first time.

VALOREM PER INTEGRITAS

VALUE THROUGH INTEGRITY

