

“DRONEOLOGY” TODAY – Part 2



Continuing on last month's topic, here are more industries that are employing drones:

Farming:

- The farming industry's use of drones can help farmers measure soil's water content, identify drainage issues, irrigation problems, the presence of crop-destroying pests, while GPS-drones can be used by the herder to take livestock out to pasture and keep the herd together.

Business:

- **Shell Oil** has used drones for accessing/viewing tall towers and offshore rigs rather than putting workers in danger.
- Several news companies (**BBC, Al Jazeera**) already film overhead, albeit with some controversy from local governments.
- Innovative restaurant "**Yo Sushi**" in London has already launched its flying waiter, dubbed "iTray" where your food is delivered to your table via drone...seeing is believing!
- Architects working on the completion of the **Sagrada Familia** in Barcelona are about to use drones to scan the building's tall exterior to enable quicker

visualization, worker distribution and maintenance analysis. The 2026 deadline for completion of this 133 year-old church is looming and drone usage could help accelerate the work in process.

- Site surveys can be done more accurately and quicker as drones are programmed to fly over vast acreage, photograph and video, map elevation changes, locate water, detect minerals present and other resources – then transmit the information, process and analyze it in much shorter time.
- Real estate agents are increasingly using drones to create beautiful videos of properties for sale. This can be especially powerful when a property's best features and most sellable points are difficult to reach (e.g. hanging off the side of a cliff, atop a rugged mountain path).
- Some home service companies are also using camera-equipped drones to inspect house exteriors for damage and maintenance requirements thus saving legwork and manpower hours.
- Golf enthusiasts can now view fantastic videos of their potential courses – obviously a boon for the golf club's marketing department. As a player, you could review the video and analyze the terrain long before you take a club from the bag. These same drones can also be valuable to coaches and pros as they continue to train and improve their protégés.
- Engineering inspections are beginning to be more efficient where drones are used to inspect equipment and conditions in remote or hard-to-reach areas. Wind energy engineers can perform inspections on turbines and props without bringing in heavy equipment or putting workers at risk. HD videos can show them every support, crack, and joint on huge structures and can often be more thorough than a human engineer with safety and environmental restrictions.
- In operation for a couple of years, cameras on drones have already produced thousands of unforgettable videos of weddings, fantastic vacation spots, sporting events, concerts and much more. The birds' eye view is a special one so the possibilities are as endless as one's imagination.
- Insurance companies are already using drone technology in processing car accidents and home damage by assessing the incident, documenting the information and speeding up communication to the insured when something occurs.

More are on the way and it appears that the key word is “control” of the devices: who and how they are used - so check the skies right above your head!