EUR ING Kieron Parnell CEng MSc BEng MRAeS



PROFILE

I am a CAA qualified, authorised and insured remote pilot. In all tasks I am focussed on the specification, design, development, testing, approval & delivery of effective, safe and efficient solutions. I am motivated to design and deliver technical solutions that satisfy customer's requirements and comply with relevant design & operational safety requirements & regulations. I am happy to work alone and in teams as tasks require. My primary objective is to help leaders and managers ensure projects are deliverable and delivered. I also have 30 years experience of uncrewed & crewed aircraft design, ground & flight test, certification and safe operations.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

Analytical, rational, systematic, thorough, flexible & calm by nature & education. Determined to complete tasks on schedule, within budget & to the specified quality/safety standard. Able to communicate clearly & concisely at all levels of seniority. Motivated to find & adopt innovative solutions to problems. Experienced in documenting all aspects of my work, but particularly safety related analysis and risk assessment, and presenting my work to varied audiences.

EXPERIENCE

Remote Pilot & Accountable Manager, Airborne Insights

April 2024 to present day, efficient, effective and safe operation of drones (DJI Mavic Air, Phantom 3 Pro, M3E, M3T, M4E, M30 & M300) for capture of images & video. For use in inspection, surveying, mapping, modelling, analysis of construction site design & layout, marketing material, etc. For property developers, property owners/operators, architects, surveyors and estate agents under the Airborne Insights trading name. CAA A2 CoC & GVC qualified, UK PDRA01 authorised and insured in compliance with CAA regulations. Experience of building and land inspection/surveying for homeowners, heritage building charities, warehouse operators, quarries, recycling plant operators, golf course operators, solar farm developers for design and pile locations setting-out and solar panel installers. Delivery of orthomosaics, contour maps, DSMs, DEMs and 3D models in industry standard file formats created using DJI Terra, Pix4D (matic & mapper) and Reality Capture photogrammetry software & QGIS, as well as raw photography & video. Accurate & effective use of RTK-enabled drones, rovers & LIDAR scanners. Maintenance of accurate training, flying time, equipment use & maintenance and job records in compliance with CAA airspace airworthiness & flight safety requirements.

Contract interim Head of Ground and Flight Test Engineering, Wingcopter

Ground & flight test of 4 & 8 motor eVTOL tilt-rotor drones (178 & 198) designed for time sensitive delivery of high-value goods or equipment. Planning and conduct of effective & safe ground & flight test for the gathering of design development and certification support data. Provision of information and data to enable close integration of business, engineering & production disciplines to ensure deliverable aircraft development and test programmes.

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R&D Engineer of drone technology for integration into warehouse operations, Logistics Partners
Development of small Off-The-Shelf (OTS) consumer (DJI Phantom 3 Pro) & custom-built multi-rotors drones (HolyBro x500 v1) into supply chain systems in conjunction with software applications running on Windows, MacOS, Arduino, Teensy & Raspberry Pi. Component & system rig, static & flight testing of prototype systems in test & operational environments.

Chief Flight Test & Certification Engineer, Blue Bear Systems Research
UAS ground/flight test & certification test & team management - Building, leading and managing a team of pilots and flight test engineers. Operating DJI M600, and bespoke multi-copters (quad, octo, hexa, etc.) & fixed-wing types. Using PX4 & Arducopter firmware running on PixHawk & in-house flight controllers. Responsible for the planning, briefing, conduct and reporting of bench & flight test, including review of recorded flight and sensor data.
Concept design and systems engineering of UAS & development of certification concept - Development of pragmatic approaches to UAS concept design airworthiness & certification to ensure appropriate operating performance, cost and flight safety risk estimation. Liaison with civil and military design, operations & airspace regulators.

EARLIER POST-GRADUATION ROLES

- Flight Test Engineer, Marshall ADG
- Aircraft Performance & T&E Project Engineer, QinetiQ
- Aircraft Performance Engineer, Aerotech Solutions
- Avionic Software System & Aerodynamics Design Engineer, BAE SYSTEMS
- Avionic Systems & Software Design Engineer, Smiths Industries
- Flight Simulator Software Design Engineer, Rediffusion Simulation

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- MSc Aircraft Engineering, College of Aeronautics, Cranfield University
- BEng (Honours) Aeronautical Engineering, Queen Mary College, University of London

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, MEMBERSHIPS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Qualified & Authorised Drone remote pilot and CAA Accountable Manager: A2 Certificate of Competence (A2CoC), General Visual Certificate (GVC) and Unmanned Aircraft Operational Authorisation, Specific Category – UKPDRA01
- Chartered Engineer, Engineering Council (CEng) & Registered European Engineer, FEANI (EUR ING)
- Member, Royal Aeronautical Society
- Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card holder - Managers & Professionals HS&E
- SpanSet Ltd professional telecom tower Radio Frequency Awareness training and exam

PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND SKILLS

- European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) and many years experience of Microsoft Office/365 Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc. PC & Mac applications
- UK Driving Licence with AM, A, B, B1, C1, D1, BE, C1E & D1E category entitlements and experience of driving motorbikes, cars, vans, and trailer towing, with zero penalty points
- Hand, soldering and power tool skills & experience on: road & mountain bike, motorbike, car & camper van maintenance & repair; model aircraft & drone frame and electric/electronics builds; and house, garage and DIY projects

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- Multi-rotor and fixed-wing remote control model aircraft flying
- Aircraft and equipment development using ArduPilot, Q Ground Control, PX4 Autopilot, Matek Systems H743 & Holybro PixHawk flight controllers, Python, C, SITL simulation, Linux, MavLink, GitHub, Jira, Arduino and Teensy

For more information:

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Registered in England and Wales. Company Registration Number 11887221
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