Coast Guard UAS; Programs and Strategy
Long-Range UAS
- Wide area surveillance for the Area Commander
- **Beyond Radio Line of Sight** C2 link (SATCOM)
- 24 hour endurance

Medium-Range UAS
- On demand support for the tactical commander
- **Beyond Visual Line of Sight** C2 link (Radio)
- 12+ hour endurance

Short-Range UAS
- Personal, portable system
- **Visual Line of Sight** C2 link (Radio/Wifi)
- 20-30 minute endurance
Long-Range UAS (LR-UAS) – Joint
LR-UAS Program Status

**Joint Program Office (JPO)**

- All aircraft and equipment owned by CBP
- Joint MQ-9 operations with CBP: 4 USCG Pilots / 9 USCG Sensor Operators (SO)
- CG Personnel stationed with CBP at National Air Security Operations Center (NASOC) in San Angelo, TX
- CG aircrew serve as:
  - Pilots, Sensor Operators, Instructors

**Mission:** CONUS land border; Maritime border

**Challenges**

- Cost prohibitive for CG-only program
- Airspace/ see and avoid
Medium Range-UAS (MR-UAS)
MR-UAS Program Status

- **UAS on National Security Cutters (NSC)**
  - Only current Coast Guard UAS program of record
  - 6 NSCs operational by end of FY20, entire fleet by FY21
  - Contractor owned and operated
  - 12 hour endurance per day
  - Ground Control Station (GCS) and live video monitoring is available in ship’s Combat Information Center
  - Sensor Data not currently sent off NSC to other assets

- **Future:**
  - Expand cutter-based UAS to Offshore Patrol Cutters and Polar Security Cutters
  - Develop Land-Based UAS program
MR-UAS Challenges

- Sensors
- Cross platform data sharing
- Airspace, Detect and Avoid, Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS)
- Footprint
Short-Range UAS (SR-UAS)
SR-UAS Program

- **Current:**
  - Commercial off-the-shelf ($1-2K)
  - 24 Units Operating
  - 122 Remote Pilots trained
  - Fleet-wide implementation on hold

- **Future:**
  - DHS prohibition on foreign made UAS
  - DIU/DoD has released “Blue” UAS
  - CG is committed to transitioning 100% to “Blue” UAS
  - New systems range from $7k - $25k
  - Identifying fleet replacement and long term sustainment strategy
Full Coast Guard Fleet Implementation:

- Authorized for all 11 Statutory Missions:
  - Major Cutters
  - Patrol Boats/Ice Breakers
  - Civil Engineering Units
  - Sectors
  - Boat Stations
  - Public Affairs Detachments
  - MFPU/PSU/MLEA

- Schoolhouse to provide initial training and inventory management

- Potentially Thousands of Remote Pilots performing every Coast Guard Mission
Questions?