9-21-2017

Huey meets drone over Staten Island

THE FIRST (AND ONLY) DOCUMENTED MID AIR COLLISION WITH A DRONE

- Recreational flight
- Flight was BVLOS
- Time of crash was 2 minutes prior to the end of civil twilight
- Flight logs indicated and altitude of 547 agl was achieved
- TFR was in effect at the time of the collision
- Collision occurred at 247 agl

DAMAGE ASSESMENT

- A 1 1/2-inch dent was found on the leading edge of one of the UH-60's main rotor blades, surrounded by various scratches and material transfer. Some cracks were observed in the composite fairing and window frame material.
- The Phantom 4 sUAS was destroyed and several components were lodged in the helicopter.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Know the regulations
- Check NOTAMS
- Keep aircraft in sight at all times
- If flying at night use proper lighting
- Maintain a safe altitude Civil Aircraft can legally flight at 500 agl and Helicopters can legally fly at 100 agl
- DJI 4 Go app records flight history which the FAA can legally require you to provide.

INDUSTRY OUTCOMES

- Industry backed UTM
- Industry backed "electronic license plate"
- Greater restrictions on recreational aircraft