



UNMANNED SYSTEMS  
ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

*Unmatched Innovation*

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

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### **Unmanned Systems Association of Virginia (USAV) featured in *Virginia Business* magazine**

**RICHMOND, Va.** – In the [cover story](#) of the November 2016 issue of *Virginia Business*, reporter Jessica Sabbath states: ***Virginia wants to become ‘the Silicon Valley’ for unmanned vehicles.*** The article notes the Commonwealth has the attributes to be a leader in this emerging technology — not only in drones but in driverless vehicles and unmanned maritime vehicles – touting Virginia’s diverse topography, a large military presence, proximity to Washington, D.C., and ongoing higher-education research on unmanned systems.

The article features the [Unmanned Systems Association of Virginia \(USAV\)](#) as a trade association recently formed to create a unified voice for users of unmanned systems in Virginia. Sabbath highlights the work of several USAV founding members including:

- **Dominion’s** use of drones to inspect transmission lines, utility poles and other structures, quoting **Steve Eisenrauch**, USAV board member and manager of electric transmission forestry and line services for Dominion Virginia Power;
- **Raytheon’s** involvement in unmanned systems support and training for the military and its interest in commercial applications including precision agriculture, quoting **Bob Dehnert**, USAV board member and senior director for command control and awareness at Raytheon; and
- **Newport News Shipbuilding’s** recent purchase of an unmanned underwater vehicle company and the company’s strategic foresight as the Navy looks to unmanned, undersea vehicles and aerial vehicles, quoting **John Lamb**, USAV board member and director for program integration and strategic readiness for Newport News Shipbuilding.

The article also shares some of the challenges that the unmanned systems industry may face in Virginia, recognizing that new regulations may be introduced in the coming year. Read more about the state of unmanned systems in Virginia [here](#), and learn more about USAV [here](#).

#### **About Unmanned Systems Association of Virginia (USAV)**

The Unmanned Systems Association of Virginia is a non-profit coalition focused on creating legislation and a regulatory framework that supports innovation, collaboration and growth in the unmanned systems industry in the Commonwealth. For more information, please visit [www.unmatchedva.org](http://www.unmatchedva.org).

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