

Use of UAVs for Restoring Communications in Emergency Situations



Abstract

When infrastructure is damaged by a significant disaster event, the restoration of communications is one of the most urgent and important tasks. Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) have started being used for several important roles in the process of restoring communications infrastructure. One role for UAVs is to act as flying cell sites, which can provide mobile cellular coverage as an alternative to ground-based cell towers.

This report introduces some of the ways in which UAVs are being used and explains the technical and logistical considerations. This report may be used by emergency planners and organizations that provide UAV-based communication services during disasters to assist with preparation and execution of disaster recovery.

Foreword

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