THE RANTOUL NATIONAL AVIATION CENTER

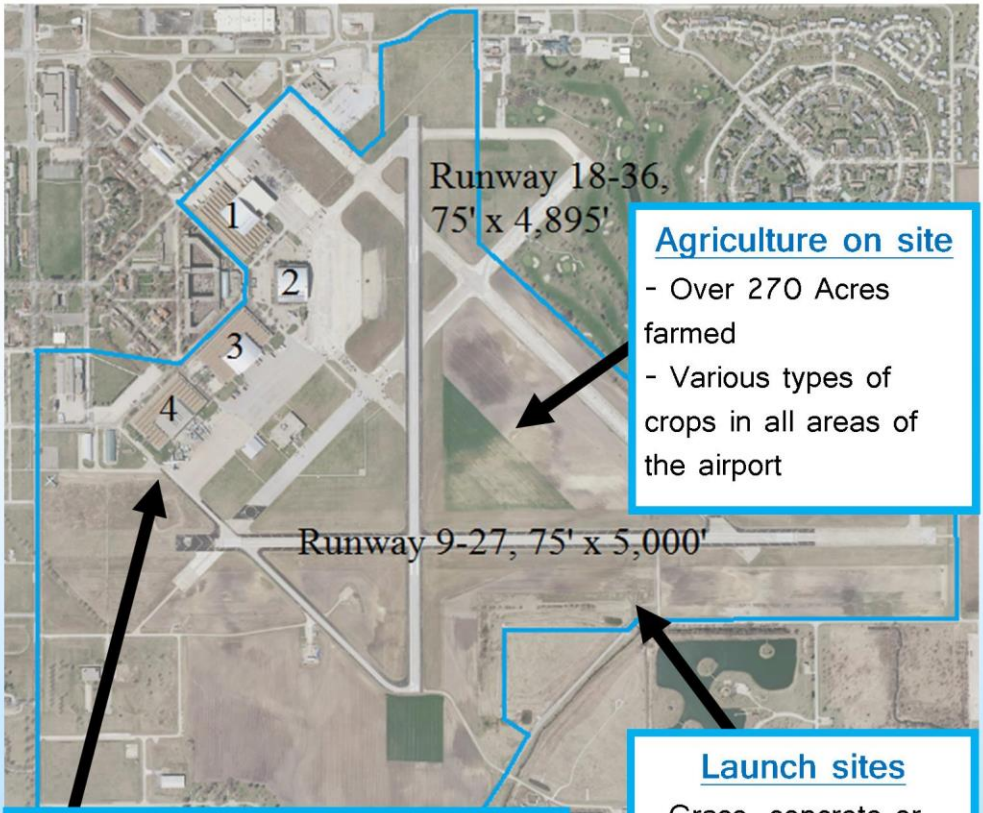
The Best Choice for UAS Operations

http://www.myrantoul.com

WHY RANTOUL

Located in the central United States, the Rantoul National Aviation Center (RNAC) offers a unique combination of airport (ICAO Identifier: KTIP), Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ), nearby rail and highway access, and climate controlled hangars that have extensive floor space. This location offers the facilities, infrastructure and airspace to operate a premier Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) testing, manufacturing or teaching facility.

There are **5** very good reasons why the RNAC can provide the best UAS facilities in the region:



Agriculture on site

- Over 270 Acres farmed
- Various types of crops in all areas of the airport

Launch sites

- Grass, concrete or asphalt launch and recovery areas
- Many surfaces open to hovering or training

Large ramps and hangars

- Large indoor wind-free testing facilities
- Manufacturing and warehouse space
- Convenient highway and runway access

REASON 1: SUPERIOR FACILITIES

- Runways fully capable of handling jet traffic and most of the larger UASs used by civil and military operators

- Diverse takeoff and landing surface areas could make the RNAC ideal for UAS research and development.

REASON 2: ADVANTAGEOUS AIRSPACE

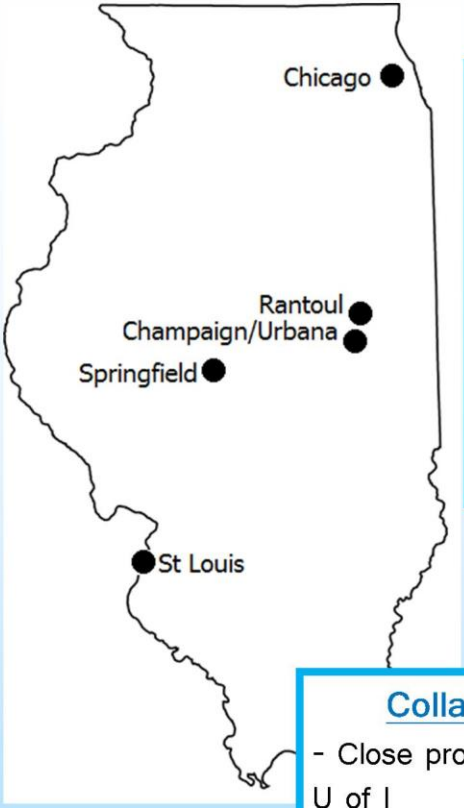
- The RNAC is within uncongested Class G (up to 700' AGL) and Class E airspace
- No air carrier service means the airport should have greater versatility and usability by UAS aircraft thanks to reduced regulatory requirements
- Rural/farm area surrounds the airport on three sides which reduces risk and allows quicker access to flight training areas

Uncontrolled airspace

- No air traffic control requirement
- Uncongested airspace reduces risk of collision or delay
- Training areas with few obstructions surround the airport

Controlled airspace

- Champaign offers air traffic services which may be beneficial for training or for when the weather is below VFR minimums



Centrally located

- 1 1/2 Hours from Chicago by car
- 2 Hours west of Indianapolis
- 15 Minutes from the University of Illinois or Champaign/Urbana
- Over 320 good flying days a year

Collaboration opportunities

- Close proximity to Parkland College and U of I
- Many aviation and manufacturing companies located in the area

REASON 3: IDEAL LOCATION

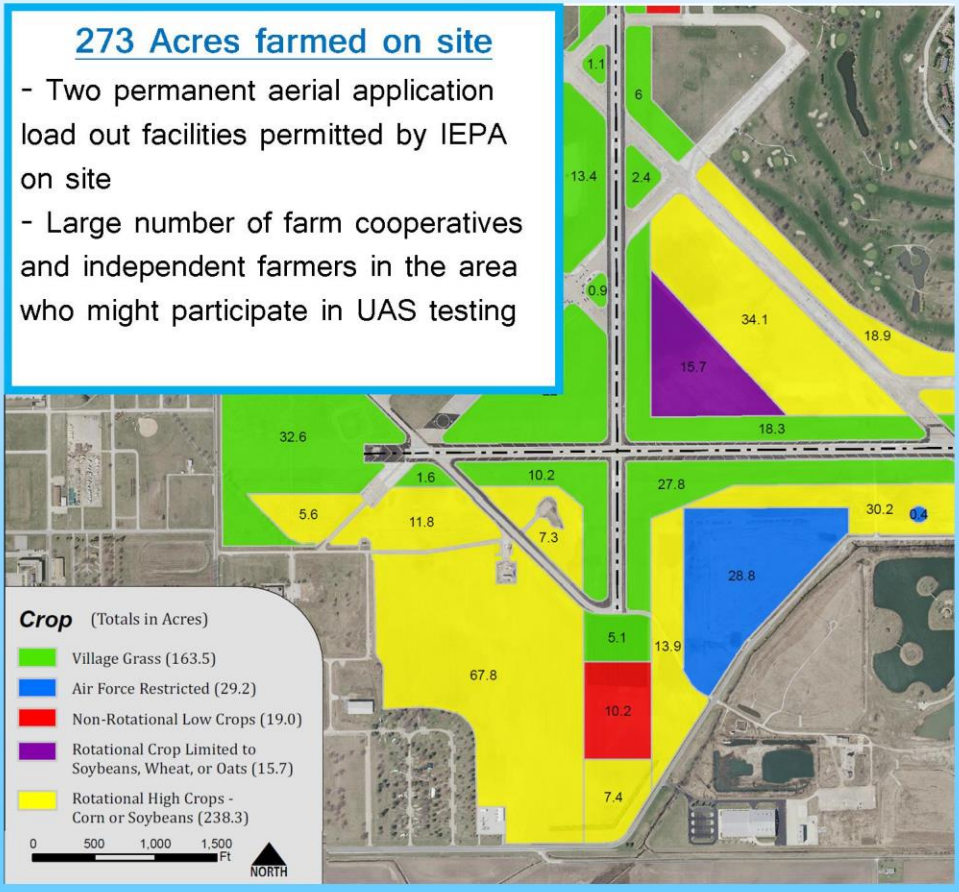
- Many UAS research and production organizations located within 20 minute drive
- Parkland's Institute of Aviation provides flight training to the level required to be qualified as a UAS pilot
- Weather data from 2007-2012 indicate visibility-ceiling was better than 3 miles and 1,500' 88.1% of the time

REASON 4: AGRICULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

- One of only a few airports in the region to have permanent chemical load out facilities for aerial application (crop dusting)
- Rantoul is at the center of one of the largest concentrations of farming in the country
- The area surrounding Rantoul will have a strong long-term demand for UAS services

273 Acres farmed on site

- Two permanent aerial application load out facilities permitted by IEPA on site
- Large number of farm cooperatives and independent farmers in the area who might participate in UAS testing



REASON 5: THE RANTOUL COMMUNITY

- Rantoul is already home to companies that are the cream of the crop in their respective businesses, including: Easton Bell Sports, Jeld-Wen Windows and Doors, ConAir, and Eagle Wings Industries
- Rantoul attracts large companies because of the low utility costs, taxes, lease rates, and because of the assistance Rantoul offers to new and old businesses

The RNAC is clearly the ideal location if you are involved in UAS research, testing, manufacturing, or operations. Rantoul offers the facilities, airspace, location, demand (agriculture), and community that makes this the place to be.

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