Sample Preflight Inspection Checklist

Even if the small unmanned aircraft system (sUAS) manufacturer has a written preflight inspection procedure, it is recommended that the Remote Pilot in Command (Remote PIC) ensure that the following inspection items are incorporated into the preflight inspection procedure required by part 107 to help the Remote PIC determine that the sUAS is in a condition for safe operation.

Conduct a preflight visual or functional check of the aircraft, including (but not limited to) the steps below.

Visually inspect the condition of the unmanned aircraft system components
Inspect the airframe structure, including undercarriage, all flight control surfaces and linkages
Inspect registration markings for proper display and legibility
Inspect moveable control surface(s), including airframe attachment point(s)
Inspect servo motor(s), including attachment point(s)
Inspect the propulsion system, including powerplant(s), propeller(s), rotor(s), ducted fan(s), etc.
Verify all systems (e.g. aircraft, control unit) have an adequate energy supply for the intended operation and are functioning properly
Inspect the avionics, including control link transceiver, communication/navigation equipment and antenna(s)
Calibrate UAS compass prior to any flight
Inspect the control link transceiver, communication/navigation data link transceiver, and antenna(s)
Check that the display panel, if used, is functioning properly
Check ground support equipment, including takeoff and landing systems, for proper operation
Check that control link correct functionality is established between the aircraft and the control station
Check for correct movement of control surfaces using the control station
Check on board navigation and communication data links
Check flight termination system, if installed
Check fuel for correct type and quantity
Check battery levels for the aircraft and control station
Check that any equipment, such as a camera, is securely attached
Verify communication with UAS and that the UAS has acquired GPS location from at least 4 satellites
Start the UAS propellers to inspect for any imbalance or irregular operation
Verify all controller operation for heading and altitude
If required by flight path walk through, verify any noted obstructions that may interfere with the UAS
At a controlled low altitude, fly within range of any interference and recheck all controls and stability

Adapted from: Advisory Circular 107, Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (as amended)