The Opportunity:

Commercial unmanned aircraft systems (commonly known as drones) represent the next major growth area for General Aviation. Whereas the early 20th Century ushered in the Air Age, and the mid 20th Century represented the start of the Space Age, one could call the early 21st Century the beginning of the Drone Age. The unmanned aircraft system industry is currently in its infancy, with commercial interests just beginning to discover the wealth of applications which can be fulfilled with these small, inexpensive, and very capable remotely piloted vehicles.

The Proposal:

Building on its success as an FAA Part 61 Flight School, AvSport seeks to develop a comprehensive drone training program, whereby our students can be among the first in the nation to earn an FAA Remote Pilot certificate with a small UAS rating.

Vision Statement:

AvSport envisions a renaissance in commercial Unmanned Aircraft System (drone) operation, supporting a variety of industries, facilitated by quality training of Remote Pilots that emphasizes airmanship, awareness, and crew resource management.

Mission Statement:

AvSport enhances commercial drone safety, by offering:

- a rigorous ground and flight training curriculum
- experienced, professional Certified Flight Instructors
- well maintained advanced Unmanned Aircraft Systems
- modern, computerized instructional materials
- small classes emphasizing hands-on instruction
- an affordable and accessible Remote Pilot training program

Schedule Milestone and Accomplishments:

December 2015   **(Technology Readiness Level 1)**
- FAA first requires registration of small Unmanned Aircraft Systems

January 2016   **(Technology Readiness Level 2)**
- AvSport creates Drone-Training.org website, begins curriculum development

June 2016   **(Technology Readiness Level 3)**
- FAA publishes FAR Part 107 rules for commercial drone operation, licensing

June 2016   **(Technology Readiness Level 4)**
- AvSport purchases its first quad-copter trainer, publishes curriculum

July 2016   **(Technology Readiness Level 5)**
- AvSport chief flight instructor completes online FAASTeam drone course

August 2016   **(Technology Readiness Level 6)**
- FAA implements FAR Part 107 rules for commercial drone operation

August 2016   **(Technology Readiness Level 7)**
- AvSport chief flight instructor becomes first Remote Pilot licensed in US

September 2016   **(Technology Readiness Level 8)**
- AvSport conducts its first Remote Pilot course

September 2016   **(Technology Readiness Level 9)**
- FAA issues Remote Pilot certificates to first AvSport graduates

TRL = 9

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