### **Drones**



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#### Description

2018 was the year drones went mainstream. A commercial industry blossomed, new regulatory frameworks launched in the US and European Union, and hundreds of thousands of drones were used worldwide for media, land surveying, building and infrastructure inspections, and personal entertainment.

In 2019, autonomous drones, capable of working independently and together as part of a larger fleet, will be deployed. These next-gen drones will be used in natural disasters, for package deliveries, for smart city management, within warehouses, and on automated farms.

Widespread future use of commercial drones will likely depend on standardizing regulations. If companies are forced to comply with patchwork regulations in different locations, it would make compliance burdensome.

However we anticipate groundwork to be laid on new kinds of regulation in 2019 that could usher in a universal traffic management system. Think highways in the sky that govern which kinds of drones and crewed vehicles can fly. Where controllers, pilots and regulatory agencies know exactly where traffic is at any given time, and new drones and vehicles can operate safely out of the line of sight.

As drone demand increases around the world, it's likely that consolidation will follow. Flight service providers, hardware startups, drone and aircraft manufacturers, asset and flight path management software, and data processing platforms will see a wave of mergers and acquisitions in the near future, which could make it difficult for new startups to compete.

- \* Drone Operation Centers
- \* Drones as a Service
- \* Personal Home Drone Surveillance
- \* Real-Time Mapping
- \* Flying Beyond Visual Line of Sight
- \* Microdrones and Drones Used In Dangerous/ Hard-To-Reach Areas
- \* Clandestine, Disappearing Drones

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