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Amazon Expands Drone Testing in Britain

Amazon has partnered with the British government to significantly expand drone testing, a move that could allow the devices to deliver packages to British homes far earlier than in the United States.

Under the partnership, Britain's aviation regulator will let Amazon test several aspects of drone technology — such as piloting the machines beyond the line of sight of its operators — that the Federal Aviation Administration in the United States has not permitted. The tests [...] are to begin immediately.

“The U.K. is a leader in enabling drone innovation,” Paul Misener, Amazon's vice president of global innovation policy and communications, said in a statement. “This announcement strengthens our partnership with the U.K. and brings Amazon closer to our goal of using drones to safely deliver parcels in 30 minutes to customers in the U.K. and elsewhere around the world.”

Amazon said it hoped success with the drone trials in Britain would encourage more hesitant regulators in the United States and elsewhere to loosen restrictions. The trials will “help identify what operating rules and safety regulations will be needed to help move the drone industry forward,” the company said in a statement.

By Cecilia Kang, *The New York Times*, July 25, 2016.

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<http://fpv.tv/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/drones-delivery-shop.jpg>

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