



# EXPLORE FLIGHT

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## Non-repudiation for Drone-Related Data

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# UTM data requirements



In order for UTM to support safe multiple UAS operations within and beyond visual line-of-sight, data related to weather, 3D structures, other aircraft, etc. must be made available. Describe the type of data needed to support safe operations, how that data is collected, maintained current, shared with operators, and whether standards for certain types of data are needed in terms of data quality (e.g. integrity, reliability, continuity and availability), security and resilience.

*Drone Enable 2022 RFI*



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# Non-repudiation



*Protection against an individual who falsely denies having performed a certain action and provides the capability to determine whether an individual took a certain action, such as creating information, sending a message, approving information, or receiving a message.*

- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) SP 800-53 Rev. 5



# Non-repudiation

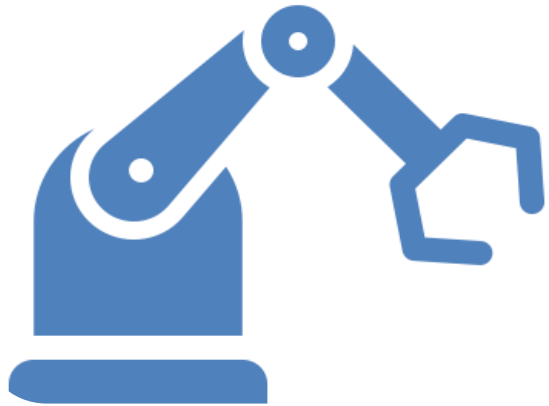


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# Why is non-repudiation important in UAS operations?



**Increased  
Automation**



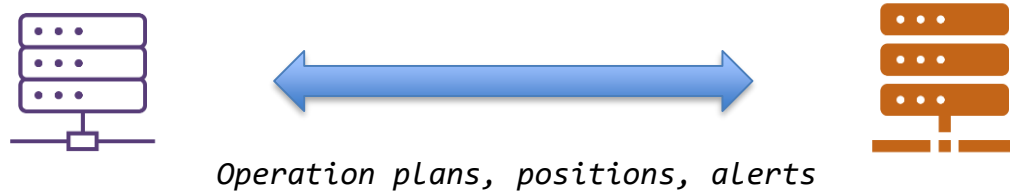
**Operator  
Collaboration**



**Building  
Trust**



# Operator-to-operator example



Systems exchanging data per standards and airspace requirements.



Something bad happens between ops managed by different entities

They were flying somewhere other than where they said they'd be.



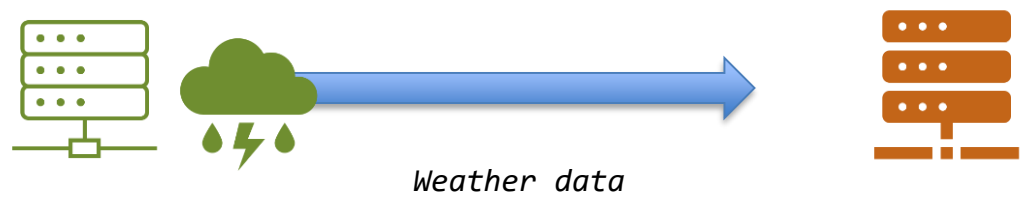
They acknowledged our change of plans.



Did they do what they said they would do?  
Are they denying seeing data they actually saw?



# Not just operation service suppliers...



Operator receiving weather reports from a qualified provider



Operator ignores weather data or takes on excess risk, flying into bad conditions

You received a weather report and you didn't use it properly.



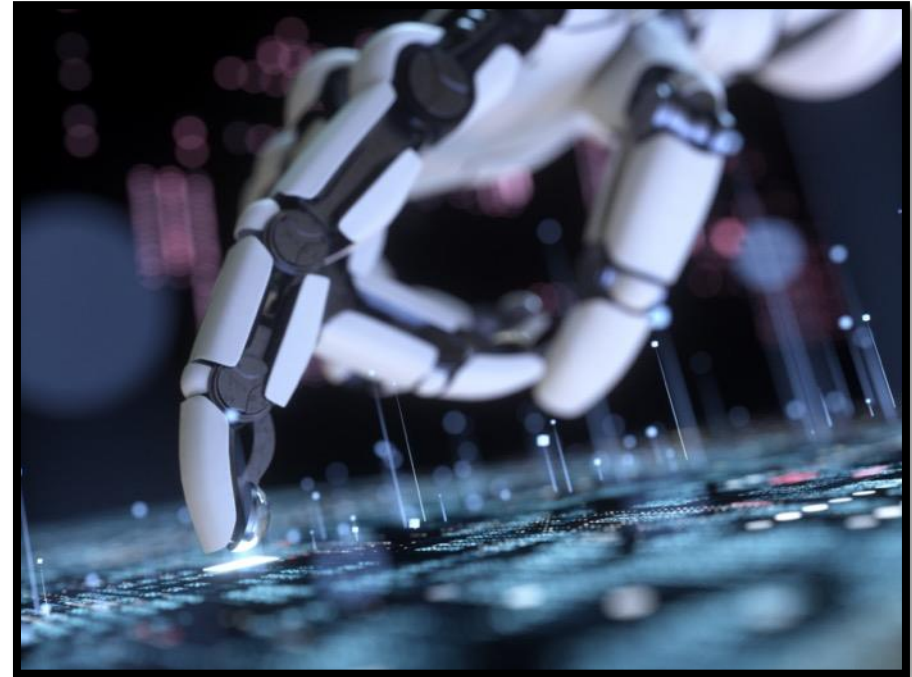
The weather report was wrong? I didn't get a report on time?

Operator claims a problem with weather service, insurance and weather provider disagree with operator





# Message signing



Given appropriate infrastructure, it is possible to have each digital exchange signed, adding confidence that its content is unmodified and protecting against repudiation attacks against the system.



# Proposed solution



The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) has draft standards supporting non-repudiation of HTTP-based communications.

HTTP is the dominant approach to UAS Traffic Management (UTM) and xTM (extensible traffic management) system-to-system communications currently proposed, standardized, field-tested, and deployed around the world.

Careful consideration and implementation of these draft standards can close a gap that may otherwise derail faith and effectiveness of future UTM systems.

Currently being tested in the UTM Field Test in the USA. Regardless of those results, work would remain to fully vet and define requirements around message signing and non-repudiation.

HTTP  
 Internet-Draft  
 Intended status: Standards Track  
 Expires: 30 March 2023

A. Backman, Ed.  
 Amazon  
 J. Richer, Ed.  
 Bespoke Engineering  
 M. Sporny  
 Digital Bazaar  
 26 September 2022

**HTTP Message Signatures**  
**draft-ietf-httpbis-message-signatures-13**

Abstract

This document describes a mechanism for creating, encoding, and verifying digital signatures or message authentication codes over components of an HTTP message. This mechanism supports use cases where the full HTTP message may not be known to the signer, and where the message may be transformed (e.g., by intermediaries) before reaching the verifier. This document also describes a means for requesting that a signature be applied to a subsequent HTTP message in an ongoing HTTP exchange.

HTTP  
 Internet-Draft  
 Obsoletes: [3230](#) (if approved)  
 Intended status: Standards Track  
 Expires: 21 December 2022

R. Polli  
 Team Digitale, Italian Government  
 L. Pardue  
 Cloudflare  
 19 June 2022

**Digest Fields**  
**draft-ietf-httpbis-digest-headers-10**

Abstract

This document defines HTTP fields that support integrity digests. The Content-Digest field can be used for the integrity of HTTP message content. The Repr-Digest field can be used for the integrity of HTTP representations. Want-Content-Digest and Want-Repr-Digest can be used to indicate a sender's interest and preferences for receiving the respective Integrity fields.



# Concluding thoughts



Repudiation of digital exchanges can undermine confidence and effectiveness of xTM systems.

Previously there have not been standardized approaches to non-repudiation for HTTP exchanges, despite the recognition that it is an important part of message security.

Advances in standardization of non-repudiation coincide with the maturation of xTM systems and should be incorporated as early as possible in the operationalization process.

We have proposed an approach leveraging standards and understanding the current state-of-the-art in xTM systems.

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## **Non-Repudiation for Drone-Related Data**

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A detailed NASA Technical Memorandum on this topic is now available



# Discussion and questions



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