



香港學術及職業資歷評審局  
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of  
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

## **SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT**

**IAM UAS SOLUTIONS**

**INITIAL EVALUATION AND  
LEARNING PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION**

**CERTIFICATE IN SUA ADVANCED RATING  
TRAINING (QF LEVEL 3)**

**OCTOBER 2023**

## 1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: VA1598), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap 592) (AAVQO), was commissioned by IAM UAS Solutions (“Operator”), a branch of the International Academy of Management Limited (國際工商管理研究有限公司)(Operator) to conduct an Initial Evaluation and Learning Programme Accreditation Exercise with the following Terms of Reference:

- (a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in AAVQO to determine whether the Operator meets the stated objectives and is competent to operate learning programmes that meet the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF / QF) Level 3 standard, and can be granted Initial Evaluation Status at QF Level 3;
- (b) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in AAVQO to determine whether the following programme of the Operator meets the stated objectives and QF standards and can be offered as an accredited programme
  - (i) Certificate in SUA Advanced Rating Training (QF Level 3); and
- (c) To issue to the Operator accreditation report(s) setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) and (b) by HKCAAVQ.

1.2 The accreditation exercise was conducted according to the relevant accreditation guidelines referred to in the Service Agreement. A site visit took place on 31 August 2023.

## 2. HKCAAVQ'S DETERMINATION

### Initial Evaluation

2.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that, subject to the fulfilment of all conditions set out in 2.4, the Operator is competent to achieve its stated objectives and to operate learning programmes meeting QF standard(s) at Levels 1 to 3, and can be granted Initial Evaluation (IE) status at QF Level 3 with a validity period of two years.

### 2.2 Validity Period

2.2.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below.

2.2.2 The maintenance of the accreditation status within the specified validity period is subject to the fulfilment of all requirements set out in 2.4 by the specified fulfilment deadline.

2.2.3 Within the two-year validity period for IE, the Operator must have at least one programme successfully accredited. If the Operator does not have a current accredited programme on the Qualifications Register (QR) at the end of the two-year validity period of their IE, the Operator will need to apply for an extension of their IE status at least three months before the validity period expires. An extension of up to 2 years may be granted. Only one extension of IE status will normally be allowed. If the Operator continues to gain successful Learning Programme Accreditation (LPA), their IE status will remain valid.

2.3 The determinations on the Initial Evaluation are specified as follows:

<b>Name of Operator</b>	IAM UAS Solutions
<b>Address of Operator</b>	8/F, Morrison Plaza, 9 Morrison Hill Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong 香港灣仔摩理臣山道 9 號天樂廣場 8 樓
<b>Highest QF Level of programme(s) which the Operator can operate upon successful learning programme accreditation</b>	Level 3
<b>Start date of 2-year validity period of Initial Evaluation (IE) accreditation status</b>	1 December 2023
<b>Scope of IE Accreditation Status</b>	For local programmes operating in Hong Kong

2.4 **Condition(s) (including all pre-conditions for obtaining the HKCAAVQ accreditation status as applied for the commencement of the validity period; and all requirements for maintenance of the accreditation status within the validity period)**

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Date of Fulfilment</b>
<u>Requirement 1</u> The Operator is to review and revise the appointment criteria and terms of reference for the External Examiners (EEs) to ensure the appointed EE possesses adequate	31 July 2024

<p>subject expertise relevant to small unmanned aircraft (SUA) so that they can implement their roles and responsibilities effectively including monitoring of teaching quality, upholding the quality of assessment and the consistency of standard and marking. To this end, the Operator is to submit the following documents to HKCAAVQ by 31 July 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Revised appointment criteria for the EEs, which should include the expansion of the EE composition to ensure at least one EE has qualifications and working experience relevant to SUA;</li><li>(b) Profiles of the appointed EEs, showing their qualifications and experience meet the stated appointment criteria;</li><li>(c) Revised terms of reference for the EEs, which should include the responsibility of conducting class observations, especially for classes taught by the President or Training Manager; and</li><li>(d) A revised sampling size and method for the EEs to review marked assessment papers, ensuring a sufficient amount and a variety of scripts with different ranges of marks can be selected for review.</li></ul>	
---	--

2.5 **Recommendation**

HKCAAVQ offers the following recommendation for continuous improvement.

<b>Recommendation</b>
<p><u>Recommendation 1</u></p> <p>The Operator is recommended to enhance the class observation form by including detailed evaluation items to ensure clear guidance on the specific aspects of programme delivery is provided for observers to effectively implement their roles and responsibilities.</p>

**Learning Programme Accreditation**

2.6 HKCAAVQ has determined that, subject to the fulfilment of all conditions set out in 2.9 and compliance with all restrictions set out in 2.10, the Certificate in SUA Advanced Rating Training (QF Level 3) meets the stated objectives and QF standard

at Level 3, and can be offered as an accredited programme with a validity period from 1 March 2024 to 28 February 2026.

## 2.7 Validity Period

2.7.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below.

2.7.2 The maintenance of the accreditation status within the specified validity period is subject to the fulfilment of all requirements set out in 2.9 by the specified fulfilment deadline.

2.8 The determinations on the Learning Programme Accreditation are specified as follows:

<b>Name of Operator(s)</b>	IAM UAS Solutions
<b>Name of Award Granting Body</b>	IAM UAS Solutions
<b>Title of Learning Programme</b>	Certificate in SUA Advanced Rating Training (QF Level 3)
<b>Title of Qualification(s) (Exit Award(s))</b>	Certificate in SUA Advanced Rating Training (QF Level 3)
<b>Primary Area of Study and Training</b>	Engineering and Technology
<b>Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)</b>	Other Technical Studies and Training
<b>Other Area of Study and Training</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Industry</b>	Not applicable
<b>Branch</b>	Not applicable
<b>QF Level</b>	Level 3
<b>QF Credits</b>	4
<b>Mode(s) of Delivery and Programme Length</b>	Part-time, 5 days 41 notional learning hours (including 33 contact hours)
<b>Intermediate Exit Award(s)</b>	Not applicable

<b>Validity Period</b>	1 March 2024 to 28 February 2026
<b>Number of Enrolment(s)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Maximum Number of New Students</b>	Maximum of 200 learners per year Maximum of 20 learners per class (for lectures) Maximum of 10 learners per class (for practical flight training)
<b>Specification of Competency Standards-based Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Specification of Generic (Foundation) Competencies-based Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Vocational Qualifications Pathway Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Notes to be indicated on the QR</b>	Not applicable
<b>Address of Teaching/ Training Venue(s)</b>	(1) 8/F, Morrison Plaza, 9 Morrison Hill Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong 香港灣仔摩理臣山道 9 號天樂廣場 8 樓  (2) Hong Kong Model Engineering Club, Tai Shue Ha Road West, Tai Tong, Yuen Long, New Territories, Hong Kong 香港機械模型會香港新界大棠大樹下西路

2.9 **Condition(s) (including all pre-conditions for obtaining the HKCAAVQ accreditation status as applied for the commencement of the validity period; and all requirements for maintenance of the accreditation status within the validity period)**

Requirement	Date of Fulfilment
<p data-bbox="284 331 496 367"><u>Requirement 1</u></p> <p data-bbox="284 405 1091 770">The Operator is to review and revise the appointment criteria and terms of reference for the External Examiners (EEs) to ensure the appointed EE possesses adequate subject expertise relevant to small unmanned aircraft (SUA) so that they can implement their roles and responsibilities effectively including monitoring of teaching quality, upholding the quality of assessment and the consistency of standard and marking. To this end, the Operator is to submit the following documents to HKCAAVQ by 31 July 2024:</p> <ul data-bbox="300 808 1091 1391" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="300 808 1091 987">(a) Revised appointment criteria for the EEs, which should include the expansion of the EE composition to ensure at least one EE has qualifications and working experience relevant to SUA;</li><li data-bbox="300 987 1091 1099">(b) Profiles of the appointed EEs, showing their qualifications and experience meet the stated appointment criteria;</li><li data-bbox="300 1099 1091 1245">(c) Revised terms of reference for the EEs, which should include the responsibility of conducting class observations, especially for classes taught by the President or Training Manager; and</li><li data-bbox="300 1245 1091 1391">(d) A revised sampling method for the EEs to review marked assessments, ensuring a variety of scripts with different ranges of marks can be selected for review.</li></ul>	<p data-bbox="1123 405 1310 441">31 July 2024</p>

**2.10 Restriction**

The Operator is expected to fulfill and comply with all restriction(s) during the validity period as stipulated in the accreditation report.

Restriction
<p data-bbox="284 1736 464 1771"><u>Restriction 1</u></p> <p data-bbox="284 1809 1436 1995">The Operator is to obtain and maintain their status as an Approved Training Organisation (ATO) issued by the Civil Aviation Department (CAD), specifically for conducting advanced rating training and assessments as per Section 35 of the Small Unmanned Aircraft (SUA) Order, to continue facilitating learners to obtain the Advanced Rating from CAD.</p>

2.11 **Recommendations**

HKCAAVQ offers the following recommendations for continuous improvement.

<b>Recommendations</b>
<p><u>Recommendation 1</u></p> <p>The Operator should introduce a mechanism to keep track of staff's self-development activities, including but not limited to information available from relevant websites, so as to encourage them to participate in self-development activities more frequently and to recognise their efforts in an appropriate way.</p>
<p><u>Recommendation 2</u></p> <p>The Operator should include detailed contents in the meeting minutes, such as attaching case study materials, in order to keep a thorough record of each meeting and to provide a valuable resource for future reference as well as programme enhancement.</p>

2.12 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives and the Programme continues to meet the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report.

**3. INTRODUCTION**

3.1 IAM UAS Solutions ("Operator") is a subsidiary of the International Academy of Management Limited (國際工商管理研究所有限公司), a limited company based in Hong Kong. The Operator provides a range of services, including various types of drone training, maintenance, and other drone-related services. Its objective is to deliver high-quality training on safe and efficient commercial drone operations, introduce drones to the younger generations, and assist them in developing their careers across various sectors. The Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department (CAD) released a list on 29 August 2023 entitled 'Remote Pilots can apply for advanced rating upon successful completion of the following recognised courses provided by the training organisations'. IAM UAS Solutions is one of the organisations on the list.

#### 4. PROGRAMME DETAILS

The following is the programme information provided by the Operator.

##### 4.1 Programme Objectives

This programme is to introduce the new regulatory requirements and develops learners' situational awareness and safety management skills through flight planning, risk assessment and mitigating measures, so as to enable eligible graduates to apply to Civil Aviation Department (CAD) for Advanced Rating.

##### 4.2 Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Programme, learners should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of the rules and regulations of operating a drone in Hong Kong by correctly identifying and explaining the key legal requirements and their implications for drone operations;
- apply the acquired knowledge to safely operate a drone for various job tasks such as aerial photography, infrastructure inspection, surveying, etc., ensuring all activities adhere strictly to the relevant rules and regulations;
- assess site conditions meticulously and develop comprehensive flight plans and emergency operating procedures, considering factors such as airspace restrictions, weather conditions, potential hazards, and other relevant factors; and
- manage flight operations effectively by executing the flight plan, monitoring in-flight performance, making necessary adjustments, and ensuring the prompt implementation of emergency operating procedures when required.

##### 4.3 Programme Structure

Topic	QF Credit
1. Rules and Regulations	4
2. Map, Unit of Measure and Navigation	
3. Airspace	
4. Aircraft General Knowledge	
5. Meteorology	
6. Human Performance and Airmanship	
7. Planning, Operating Procedures and Operation Manual	
8. Practical Training	
9. Assessment (Theoretical Knowledge Examination and Practical Assessment)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

#### 4.4 Graduation Requirements

- Attain at least 70% attendance for the whole course and must attain 100% attendance for practical training; and
- Obtain at least 75% score in the theoretical knowledge examination; and
- Obtain at least 75% score in the practical assessment.

#### 4.5 Admission Requirements

- Completion of Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) with minimum level 2 in English Language or Chinese Language, OR
- Completion of Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE) with minimum grade E in English Language (Syllabus B) or Chinese Language, OR
- Completion of Secondary 3 and have more than 5 years working experience in related industry

### 5. IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ACCREDITATION REPORT

#### 5.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report

- 5.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.
- 5.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5 (2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operator is no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator (whether by reference to the Operator's failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operator and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website.
- 5.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operator notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5(4) of the AAVQO.

- 5.1.4 The accreditation status of the Operator and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

## 5.2 Appeals

- 5.2.1 If the Operator is aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.
- 5.2.2 If the Operator is aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Variation or Withdrawal.
- 5.2.3 The Operator should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the right to appeal against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.
- 5.2.4 Please refer to Cap 592A ([www.elegislation.gov.hk](http://www.elegislation.gov.hk)) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the QF website at: [www.hkqf.gov.hk](http://www.hkqf.gov.hk).

## 5.3 Qualifications Register

- 5.3.1 Qualifications accredited by HKCAAVQ are eligible for entry into the QR at [www.hkqr.gov.hk](http://www.hkqr.gov.hk) for recognition under the QF. The Operator should apply separately to have their quality-assured qualifications entered into the QR.
- 5.3.2 Only learners who commence the study of the named accredited learning programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the named qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the QF.

**HKCAAVQ Report No.: 23/147**