Setouchi-cho, Oshima-gun, Kagoshima Prefecture (Mayor: Naruhito Kamada, ‘Setouchi-cho’), Japan Air Commuter Co., Ltd. (President: Kenichiro Ochi ‘JAC’), Japan Airlines Co., Ltd. (Executive President: Yuji Akasaka ‘JAL’), Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Co., Ltd. (President: Noriyuki Hara, ‘MSI’) and MS&AD InterRisk Research & Consulting, Inc. (President: Terumi Nakamura ‘InterRisk’) have signed a partnership agreement to use drones in an aim to solve regional issues by providing logistics services using UAV technology.

Through this partnership, the representatives of each organization will verify the operational issues and feasibility of logistics services through a Proof of Concept (PoC) in Setouchi-cho in 2021. The objective will focus on the enhancement of safety, creating a foundation for risk management and providing an insurance scheme in relation to the commercialization of drones.

In September 2020, JAL, MSI and MS & AD InterRisk signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)\(^1\) to develop new logistics and transportation services featuring eVTOL\(^2\) technology.

[Outline of Partnership]

(1) Proof of Concept (PoC) and verification of logistics and transportation services on remote islands
(2) Review air mobility technology on remote islands

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\(^1\) September 29, 2020 “JAL, Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance, MS&AD InterRisk Research & Consulting to Collaborate in Next-Generation Air Mobility Field”

\(^2\) electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing: A small aircraft that can take off and land vertically by rotating multiple rotors with an electric motor. It attracts attention as a means of next-generation transporting that fuses drone and electric vehicle technologies.
Setouchi-cho aims to improve the efficacy of transportation, expand sales channels for local products and reduce transportation costs. Representatives believe air mobility will revitalize the economy by establishing a new lifestyle.

JAC's mission is to provide flight services throughout the remote islands as the regional airline of Japan and looks to further develop the business by creating new value through innovative measures.

JAL aims to build up a comprehensive next-generation air mobility service, such as eVTOL, by utilizing its expertise of safety and operation management in the field of air travel. Through the provision of such services, JAL will enhance its functionality in disaster response and medical service delivery as part of the carrier’s SDGs strategy.

MSI utilizes its experience of risk underwriting related with various type of mobility to develop new products and services for next-generation air mobility and contribute to solve various social issues by providing smooth and comfortable transportation in urban areas, securing transportation tools in mountainous areas, including disaster response.

InterRisk aims to improve the safety and social acceptance by utilizing the knowledge on risk management in the fields of CASE (Connected, Autonomous, Shared and Services, Electric) and MaaS (Mobility as a Service).

SDGs: Goals that apply to this theme

End