Proposed Rules

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Office of the Secretary

6 CFR Part 5

[Docket No. DHS–2020–0232]


AGENCY: Department of Homeland Security, United States Coast Guard.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) proposes to modify and reissue a current DHS system of records titled, “DHS/USCG–061 Maritime Awareness Global Network (MAGNet) System of Records.” The modified system of records is to be reissued and renamed as “DHS/USCG Maritime Analytic Support System (MASS) System of Records.”

The Coast Guard’s enterprise modernization to the MAGNet framework prompted the need to modify and reissue the SORN. The updated framework enables the U.S. Coast Guard to: (1) Improve the system’s security protocols by enhancing system access authentication processes; (2) Enhance data management services by hosting MASS in a cloud environment, allowing USCG to apply new technologies to better tag data for retention, access, and use purposes; (3) Refresh user interfaces making MASS more user friendly and intuitive to access and use; (4) Ingest new data sources on an as-needed basis in the future more easily; (5) Update routine uses for MASS by either adding or removing previous routine uses, as explained in the revised system of records notice reissued concurrently with this proposed rule.

These updates better accommodate the accomplishment of the eleven U.S. Coast Guard statutory missions. Those missions require the collection of a wide range of information, including personally identifiable information (PII). The collection and use of PII is required to effectively conduct the responsibilities associated with these mission areas and promote Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA).

MASS collects information from numerous data sources in order for the Coast Guard to successfully execute its eleven statutory missions. MASS provides storage and access to maritime information and provides basic search capabilities either by a person or by vessel. Person searches may be retrieved by passport or merchant mariner license number. Vessel searches may be retrieved by vessel name, hull identification, or registration number. MASS enhances current capabilities by adding data sources, media storage, access capabilities, and infrastructure to provide rapid, near real-time data to the USCG and other authorized organizations. MASS users leverage the ability to share, correlate, and provide classified and unclassified data across agency lines to provide MDA critical to homeland and national security and safety.

MASS receives data from several systems both within and outside of DHS through electronic transfers of information. These electronic transfers include the use of Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP), system-to-system communications via specially written internet Protocol socket-based data streaming, database-to-database replication of data, electronic transfer of database transactional backup files, and delivery of formatted data via electronic mail.

Consistent with DHS’s information sharing mission, information stored in MASS may be shared with other DHS Components that have a need to know the information to carry out their national security, law enforcement, immigration, intelligence, or other homeland security functions. In addition, DHS/USCG may share information with appropriate federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, foreign, or international government agencies consistent with the routine uses set forth in this system of records notice.

DHS is issuing this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to exempt this system of records from certain provisions of the Privacy Act.

II. Privacy Act

The Privacy Act embodies fair information practice principles in a statutory framework governing the
means by which federal government agencies collect, maintain, use, and disseminate individuals’ records. The Privacy Act applies to information that is maintained in a “system of records.” A “system of records” is a group of any records under the control of an agency from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual. In the Privacy Act, an individual is defined to encompass U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents. Similarly, the Judicial Redress Act (JRA) provides a statutory right to covered persons to make requests for access and amendment to covered records, as defined by the JRA, along with judicial review for denials of such requests. In addition, the JRA prohibits disclosures of covered records, except as otherwise permitted by the Privacy Act.

The Privacy Act allows government agencies to exempt certain records from the access and amendment provisions. If an agency claims an exemption, however, it must issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to make clear to the public the reasons why a particular exemption is claimed. DHS is claiming exemptions from certain requirements of the Privacy Act for DHS/USCG–061 Maritime Analytic Support System (MASS) System of Records. Some information in DHS/USCG–061 Maritime Analytic Support System (MASS) System of Records relates to official DHS national security, law enforcement, and intelligence activities. These exemptions are needed to protect information relating to DHS activities from disclosure to subjects or others related to these activities.

Specifically, the exemptions are required to preclude subjects of these activities from frustrating these processes; to avoid disclosure of activity techniques; to protect the identities and physical safety of confidential informants and law enforcement personnel; to ensure DHS’s ability to obtain information from third parties and other sources; to protect the privacy of third parties; and to safeguard classified information. Disclosure of information to the subject of the inquiry could also permit the subject to avoid detection or apprehension.

In appropriate circumstances, when compliance would not appear to interfere with or adversely affect the law enforcement purposes of this system and the overall law enforcement process, the applicable exemptions may be waived on a case-by-case basis.

A notice of records for DHS/USCG–061 Maritime Analytic Support System (MASS) System of Records is also publishing elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register.

List of Subjects in 6 CFR Part 5

Freedom of information; Privacy. For the reasons stated in the preamble, DHS proposes to amend chapter I of title 6, Code of Federal Regulations, as follows:

PART 5—DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS AND INFORMATION

§ 5.10 Authority citation


§ 5.11 Record Access

In Appendix C to Part 5, revise paragraph 8 to read as follows:

Appendix C to Part 5—DHS Systems of Records Exempt From the Privacy Act

8. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/United States Coast Guard (USCG)–061 Maritime Analytic Support System (MASS) System of Records consists of electronic and paper records and will be used by DHS and its components. The DHS/USCG–061 Maritime Analytic Support System (MASS) System of Records is a repository of information held by DHS in connection with its several and varied missions and functions, including, but not limited to, the investigation, prosecution, and administration of civil and criminal laws; investigations, inquiries, and proceedings there under; and national security and intelligence activities. The DHS/USCG–061 Maritime Analytic Support System (MASS) System of Records contains information that is collected by, on behalf of, or in support of, or in cooperation with DHS and its components and may contain personally identifiable information collected by other federal, state, local, tribal, foreign, or international government agencies.

Exemptions from the Privacy Act, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2), has exempted this system from the following provisions of the Privacy Act: 5 U.S.C. 552a(c)(3) and (4); (d); (e)(1) through (3), (e)(4)(G) through (I), (e)(5) and (8); (f); and (g)(1). Additionally, the Secretary of Homeland Security, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(1) and (k)(2), has exempted this system from the following provisions of the Privacy Act: 5 U.S.C. 552a(c)(3); (d); (e)(1), (e)(4)(G) through (I), and (f).

Where a record received from another system has been exempted in that source system under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(1). DHS will claim the same exemptions for those records that are claimed for the original primary systems of records from which they originated and claims any additional exemptions set forth here.

Exemptions from other particular subsections are justified, on a case-by-case basis to be determined at the time a request is made, for the following reasons:

(a) From subsection (c)(3) and (4) (Accounting for Disclosures) because release of the accounting of disclosures could alert the subject of an investigation of an actual or potential criminal, civil, or regulatory violation to the existence of that investigation and reveal investigative interest on the part of DHS as well as the recipient agency. Disclosure of the accounting would therefore present a serious impediment to law enforcement efforts and would undermine national security. Disclosure of the accounting would also permit the individual who is the subject of a record to impede the investigation, tamper with witnesses or evidence, and to avoid detection or apprehension, which would undermine the entire investigative process. When an investigation has been completed, information on disclosures made may continue to be exempted if the fact that an investigation occurred remains sensitive after completion.

(b) From subsection (d) (Access and Amendment to Records) because access to the records contained in this system of records could inform the subject of an investigation of an actual or potential criminal, civil, or regulatory violation to the existence of that investigation and reveal investigative interest on the part of DHS or another agency. Access to the records could permit the individual who is the subject of a record to impede the investigation, tamper with witnesses or evidence, and to avoid detection or apprehension.

Amendment of the records could interfere with ongoing investigations and law enforcement activities and would impose an unreasonable administrative burden by requiring investigations to be continually reinvestigated. In addition, permitting access and amendment to such information could disclose security-sensitive information that could be detrimental to homeland security.

(c) From subsection (e)(1) (Relevancy and Necessity of Information) because in the course of investigations into potential violations of federal law, the accuracy of information obtained or introduced occasionally may be unclear, or the information may not be strictly relevant or necessary to a specific investigation. In the interests of effective law enforcement, it is appropriate to retain all information that may aid in establishing patterns of unlawful activity.

(d) From subsection (e)(2) (Collection of Information from Individuals) because requiring that information be collected from the subject of an investigation would alert the subject to the nature or existence of the investigation, thereby interfering with that investigation and related law enforcement activities.

(e) From subsection (e)(3) (Notice to Subjects) because providing such detailed information could impede law enforcement by compromising the existence of a confidential investigation or reveal the identity of witnesses or confidential informants.

(f) From subsections (e)(4)(G) through (I) (Agency Requirements) and (f) (Agency Rules), because portions of this system are exempt from the individual access provisions of subsection (d) for the reasons noted above, and therefore DHS is not required to establish requirements, rules, or procedures with respect to such access. Providing notice to
individuals with respect to existence of records pertaining to them in the system of records or otherwise setting up procedures pursuant to which individuals may access and view records pertaining to themselves in the system would undermine investigative efforts and reveal the identities of witnesses, and potential witnesses, and confidential informants.

(g) From subsection (e)(5) (Collection of Information) because with the collection of information for law enforcement purposes, it is impossible to determine in advance what information is accurate, relevant, timely, and complete. Compliance with subsection (e)(5) would preclude DHS agents from using their investigative training and exercise of good judgment to both conduct and report on investigations.

(h) From subsection (e)(8) (Notice on Individuals) because compliance would interfere with DHS’s ability to obtain, serve, and issue subpoenas, warrants, and other law enforcement mechanisms that may be filed under seal and could result in disclosure of investigative techniques, procedures, and evidence.

(i) From subsection (g)(1) (Civil Remedies) to the extent that the system is exempt from other specific subsections of the Privacy Act.

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Constantina Kozanas,
Chief Privacy Officer, Department of Homeland Security.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 21

[Docket No. FAA–2020–1089]

Airworthiness Criteria: Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the Percepto Robotics, Ltd. Percepto System 2.4

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT

ACTION: Notice of proposed airworthiness criteria.

SUMMARY: The FAA announces the availability of and requests comments on proposed airworthiness criteria for the Percepto Robotics, Ltd. Model Percepto System 2.4 unmanned aircraft system (UAS). This document proposes airworthiness criteria the FAA finds to be appropriate and applicable for the UAS design.

DATES: Send comments on or before December 23, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Send comments identified by docket number FAA–2020–1089 using any of the following methods:

☐ Federal eRegulations Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.

☐ Mail: Send comments to Docket Operations, M–30, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12–140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

☐ Hand Delivery of Courier: Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

☐ Fax: Fax comments to Docket Operations at 202–493–2251.

Privacy: The FAA will post all comments it receives, without change, to http://regulations.gov, including any personal information the commenter provides. Using the search function of the docket website, anyone can find and read the electronic form of all comments received into any FAA docket, including the name of the individual sending the comment (or signing the comment for an association, business, labor union, etc.). DOT’s complete Privacy Act Statement can be found in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477–19478), as well as at http://DocketsInfo.dot.gov.

Docket: Background documents or comments received may be read at http://www.regulations.gov at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to the Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites interested people to take part in the development of these airworthiness criteria by sending written comments, data, or views. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the airworthiness criteria, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. Comments on operational, pilot certification, and maintenance requirements would address issues that are beyond the scope of this document. Except for Confidential Business Information as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will file in the docket all comments received, as well as a report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerning these proposed airworthiness criteria. Before acting on this proposal, the FAA will consider all comments received on or before the closing date for comments. The FAA will consider comments filed late if it is possible to do so without incurring delay. The FAA may change these airworthiness criteria based on received comments.

Confidential Business Information

Confidential Business Information (CBI) is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this notice, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as “PROPIN.” The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this notice. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to the individual listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT. Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this notice.

Background

Percepto Robotics, Ltd., (Percepto) applied to the FAA on August 1, 2019, for a special class type certificate under Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) 21.17(b) for the Model Percepto System 2.4 UAS.

The Model Percepto System 2.4 consists of an unmanned aircraft (UA) and its associated elements that include communication links and the components that control the UA. The Model Percepto System 2.4 UA has a maximum gross takeoff weight of 25 pounds. It is approximately 49 inches in width, 49 inches in length, and 12 inches in height. The Model Percepto System 2.4 UA is battery powered using electric motors for vertical takeoff, landing, and forward flight. The UAS operations would rely on high levels of automation and may include multiple UA operated by a single pilot, up to a ratio of 20 UA to 1 pilot. Percepto