



NEWS RELEASE

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EMC Partners with Des Moines-Based Companies for Drone Pilot Project

DES MOINES, Iowa (Nov. 21, 2017)—EMC Insurance Companies announces a partnership with InfraDrone LLC, a Des Moines-based company providing drone inspection services, and independent insurance agency Jester Insurance Services. Through this partnership, EMC will have access to infrared-enabled drones to assess their risk mitigation capabilities.

When mounted on drones, infrared thermography cameras can collect heat data from roofs. This data helps detect moisture that may not be visible from the surface, thus minimizing the risk that severe roof damage might go unnoticed. EMC's infrared drone program, currently in the pilot stage, represents a key next phase in the company's drone initiative.

"Drones are quickly becoming more and more prevalent in the insurance industry, and EMC is right in the middle of the action," says Richard Effler, engineer in the Loss Control department at EMC. "Over the last 12 months, EMC has made great strides in using drones to document property. We look forward to completing our current pilot project and opening up drone usage to more of our policyholders."

EMC is piloting infrared-enabled drone usage with the Cedar Rapids Community School District in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Each of the district's 32 schools is scheduled to have its roof reviewed via drone during the fall of 2017.

"This proactive approach to facility maintenance will help Cedar Rapids schools avoid losses and find exposures they didn't even know were there," says Cassie Daley, risk consultant for the Cedar Rapids Community School District. "The in-depth information the drones provide will be instrumental in helping the district prioritize repairs going forward."

About EMC Insurance Companies

EMC Insurance Companies is among the top 50 insurance organizations in the country based on net written premium, with more than 2,300 employees. The company was organized in 1911 to write workers' compensation protection in Iowa. Today, EMC provides property and casualty insurance products and services throughout the United States and writes reinsurance contracts worldwide.

Operating under the trade name EMC Insurance Companies, Employers Mutual Casualty Company and one or more of its affiliated companies is licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. For more information, visit www.emcins.com and www.CountonEMC.com.

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