

# USA Firefighting Air Corps

Presentation to the Wildfire Matters Review Committee

Colorado State Capitol

September 26, 2014

Colorado's efforts in launching its own aerial firefighting fleet have attracted international attention, both to the fire aviation market redefined by these efforts, and to Colorado's newly-formed Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting.

This week, Russia signed a collaboration agreement with an American company to develop a US-built Beriev Be-200 aerial firefighting jet. The agreement identifies Colorado as a choice location for the manufacturing facility.

The Beriev Be-200 is the world's first jet designed from the ground up to function as a large airtanker, and it has successfully flown missions around the world. It has also been tested in areas facing the same hot-and-high challenges we have in Colorado.

Parties to the agreement are Beriev Aircraft Company and International Emergency Services, Inc., a California company referenced in the March 28, 2014 CFAC Special Report.

As referenced in this agreement, USA Firefighting Air Corps (USAFAC) has joined the collaboration. We are in discussions with international financiers to back the \$500 million proposition.

This is an example of how America and Russia can always find ways to collaborate on issues of global importance. The State Department regularly acknowledges U.S.-Russian collaborations in many sectors.

USAFAC invites you and the Center of Excellence to monitor this development. We should explore every opportunity to promote peace technologies, turn conflict into dialogue, and dialogue into human achievement -- such as protecting our communities from wildfires.

## About USA Firefighting Air Corps

USA Firefighting Air Corps (USAFAC) is a Denver, Colorado company in formation. Our business model draws on the multidisciplinary process which led to the successful establishment, funding, and launch of the Colorado Firefighting Air Corps, an initiative begun in 2012 to address the gap between what aerial firefighting resources Colorado needs and what the state can expect to receive in a timely manner from the Federal government.

The mission of USAFAC is to help grow the newly-redefined United States and international aerial firefighting market by assisting local, tribal, state, regional, and national entities in developing and maintaining their own firefighting air corps; provide fire aviation and related firefighting products and services, as well as the necessary research, promotion, coalition-building, recommendations, consensus-building, financing, acquisition facilitation, and implementation tracking related to the purchase and use of fire aviation and related firefighting products and services; and develop and promote research and development of intellectual property, economic development opportunities, public-private partnerships, and other financial offerings in connection with these fire aviation activities. For more information, visit <http://USAFAC.com>.

## UNITED STATES MANUFACTURE AND ACQUISITION OF BERIEV FIREFIGHTING AIRCRAFT



### Summary of Collaboration Agreement

- Continued cooperation and mutual support for the implementation of the Be-200 water scooping tank controls to allow for modified dispersion of commonly used fire suppression retardants.
- Continued cooperation to achieve certifications of the Be-200 as required by the U.S. and other nations for all configurations of the aircraft.
- Mutual support of a Be-200 aircraft for extended demonstration, research, and operation in the United States.
- Establishment of a U.S. facility and a 20-30 year program to provide certified Be-200 airtankers, assembled from components from local and international subcontractors.

The Be-200 can be configured as a land-based jet, or as an amphibious jet with large-capacity water and fire retardant tanks that can be filled at the airfield or by scooping water from a body of water. As a multipurpose aerial firefighting aircraft, the Be-200 is designed to spot, monitor, and extinguish natural and industrial fires; deliver firefighters and firefighting resources to the fire zone; and to conduct demonstration, research and development, testing, training, search and rescue, medical emergency diagnostics and resuscitation, medical evacuation, humanitarian aid, maritime patrol, ecological monitoring, and cargo and passenger transportation operations.

Alexander Yavkin, Chief Designer of the Beriev Be-200, will lead the Russian collaboration team.

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