The aerospace industry is a highly diverse sector that includes manufacturers and suppliers of aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles, and Calgary is well equipped to meet its needs.

With a skilled workforce and a network of research institutes, it is helping companies commercialize the latest in aerospace technology.

**Calgary companies have expertise in:**
- Geospatial data collection and analysis
- Navigation and communication equipment manufacturing
- Custom software development and hardware
- Manufacturing, maintenance, repair and overhaul (MMRO)

It’s not just small and medium-sized enterprises that thrive in Calgary’s aerospace ecosystem. Multinational companies in defense and aerospace also have operations in and around Calgary.

**2,500**
- Businesses related to the aerospace industry.
  *Source – Statistics Canada, 2017*

**25%**
- Of all UAV, geospatial data collection and analysis, and navigation and GPS firms are headquartered in Alberta.
  *Source – Unmanned Systems Canada & Government of Alberta*
Calgary’s aerospace workforce is well fed by local post-secondary institutions, which offer a wide range of aviation and aerospace-related programming.

- World renowned specialty in geomatics mapping and sensor technology

- Only post-secondary institution in Alberta offering hands-on training in the fields of aerospace and UAV including communication, navigation, mapping, data collection, ground school, and aviation and flight training

- Centre for Innovation and Research in Unmanned Systems (CIRUS) leads industry-partnered applied research with drones for environmental assessment and management and infrastructure assessment

**20,000+** people employed in the aerospace industry

*Source – Statistics Canada, 2017*

**Why Calgary is an industry leader**

- 1st major city in North America to allow mass testing of commercial drones
- Recent regulation to allow testing of autonomous ground vehicles
- Proximity to Canada’s largest beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) testing site
- Proximity to the Canadian Armed Force’s largest research centre