

Umutcan Ortakci

UAV Pilot and Instructor | Flight test, demonstration and training flying | BSc Electrical and Electronics Engineering | EU A1/A3 drone certificate

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Driving licence: category B

Based in Türkiye; moving to Kristiansand, Norway, in Jan 2027.

Right to work in Norway: family member of an EEA citizen. No work permit or sponsorship needed.

Available from Jan 2027, after the move. Video interview at any time.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

- **Drone pilot:** UAV pilot at Baykar Technologies since Dec 2024; pilot in command at the ground control station (GCS) on four UAV types in training, test and demonstration flights, including night, rain and strong wind; instructor pilot on two types.
- **Test and verification:** developmental test sorties on two programmes, flown to test cards after test readiness reviews and under go/no-go criteria; flight test instrumentation installed and calibrated; field software and firmware updates verified with version checks.
- **Readiness and repairs:** pre-flight inspection and calibrations, RF data link set-up and payload checks; hands-on part replacements and simple repairs; aircraft accepted from maintenance with defect records closed.
- **Troubleshooting:** faults traced to root cause across CAN bus, RS-232, RS-422 and Ethernet links on aircraft, ground stations and training simulators that run on real flight avionics.
- **Flight safety and SORA:** lost-link and GNSS-denied procedures; emergency procedures; weather, NOTAM and site risk assessment; briefs and debriefs every flight; designed and built DroneOps Manager, an app that takes a UAS operator through the EASA SORA process for an operational authorisation.
- **Training and documentation:** theory, simulator and flight courses and their exams for military and government crews, including international trainees; has written or revised almost all training documents in English for three UAV types.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Integration fault found:** after a month of searching with the team, traced a control-surface servo fault, seen in flight and only sometimes on the ground, to electromagnetic interference from another avionics unit; the redesign that followed fixed it.
- **Aircraft recovered:** spotted a spiral dive in the telemetry and recovered the aircraft with manual control and trim from the ground control station.

WORK EXPERIENCE

UAV Pilot (instructor pilot and flight test), Baykar Technologies | Dec 2024 to present

Keşan, Türkiye. Manufacturer of the Bayraktar TB2 and Akıncı unmanned aircraft; based at the company's flight training and test centre.

Progression: Bayraktar TB2 type course and TB2 operations; flight test on two programmes, including the Bayraktar KALKAN VTOL; instructor pilot on KALKAN and on one further type.

- **Operational flying:** flies as pilot in command at the ground control station in training, test and demonstration flights, including night, rain and strong wind; flies and teaches lost-link and GNSS-denied procedures; handles emergencies with the emergency checklists.
- **Flight test:** has flown developmental test sorties on two programmes to test cards, after test readiness reviews and under go/no-go criteria; has installed, calibrated and troubleshot the flight test instrumentation, monitored RF telemetry, telecommand, payload and system health in real time, and reported test observations and incidents.
- **Readiness:** carries out the physical pre-flight inspection and calibrations; replaces parts and makes simple repairs; checks gimbal movement and image quality; sets up the RF data link from scratch; instructs the technicians on assembly and set-up and accepts the aircraft from maintenance with defect records closed.
- **Configuration and fault finding:** installs aircraft and ground station software and firmware updates in the field and verifies them with settings and version checks; helps bring service bulletins into the training documents; raises and reviews engineering change requests; traces faults from technical documentation and schematics.

- **Instruction:** teaches theory, simulator and flight courses, exams included, to military and government crews, including international trainees, on two UAV types.
- **Flight safety:** briefs and debriefs every flight; assesses weather, NOTAM, airspace and site risk; attends weekly training and monthly flight and ground safety meetings; carries out FOD checks; reports hazards; gives lessons-learned briefings.
- **Demonstrations and field work:** presents the company's aircraft to visiting delegations; Teknofest exhibitions; ship-based deck trials; field deployments as pilot and instructor.

Technical Support Assistant, Ford Trucks (Ford Otosan) | May 2024 to Nov 2024

Vilnius, Lithuania. Heavy commercial vehicle brand of Ford Otosan; Lithuanian sales and service operation.

- Liaison between factory engineering in Türkiye and the local service teams; owned warranty and diagnostic cases end to end; hands-on diagnostics and electronic system checks on heavy trucks.

Electronics Engineering Intern (test and validation team), HELLA | Jul 2023 to Oct 2023

Kaunas, Lithuania. Automotive lighting and electronics supplier (part of Forvia).

- Built a Python tool that automated test reporting and the data transfer to servers in Germany, making delivered validation reports consistent and repeatable; basic soldering.

Electronics Engineer Intern, Flexkon | May 2023 to Sep 2023

Istanbul, Türkiye and Kaunas, Lithuania. Conveyor and automation line installation projects.

- Panel wiring, electrical integration and commissioning tests on a PLC-based conveyor line at a Mondelez factory.

EDUCATION

BSc Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Karabük University, Türkiye | Jul 2023

English-taught programme; honour student; thesis on buck converters (DC-DC power conversion).

Erasmus exchange, Lietuvos Inžinerijos Kolegija, Lithuania | 2021 to 2022

COURSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

- EU A1/A3 drone pilot proof of competency (online training and exam): Luftfartstilsynet, Oct 2026.
- **Baykar internal UAV pilot training (company certificates):** Bayraktar TB2 type course (4 months, from Dec 2024); Bayraktar KALKAN VTOL type and flight test training; instructor pilot training.
- **HarvardX verified certificates:** CS50x Introduction to Computer Science (Jan 2021) and CS50P Programming with Python (Oct 2022).

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Electronics:** CAN bus, RS-232, RS-422, Ethernet (TCP/IP); avionics, ground station and simulator fault finding; schematics; multimeter measurements; basic soldering; power electronics (thesis).
- **Software:** Python (log parsing, data analysis, reporting automation), SQL, Linux, MS Office; DroneOps Manager (own EASA SORA compliance app; Google Play release awaiting approval).

LANGUAGES

Turkish: native. English: fluent; degree taught in English; daily working language for teaching and briefing international crews and delegations. Norwegian: A1, actively learning. Lithuanian: basic.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Security clearance:** none held in Norway; Turkish citizen (NATO member state); also studied and worked in Lithuania (EU and NATO); ready for the background check and the clearance assessment.
- **Travel:** ready to travel for test activities, field trials and demonstrations in Norway and abroad.