

# UAS Potential in USDA

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USDA Farm Service Agency  
USDA Planning Meeting

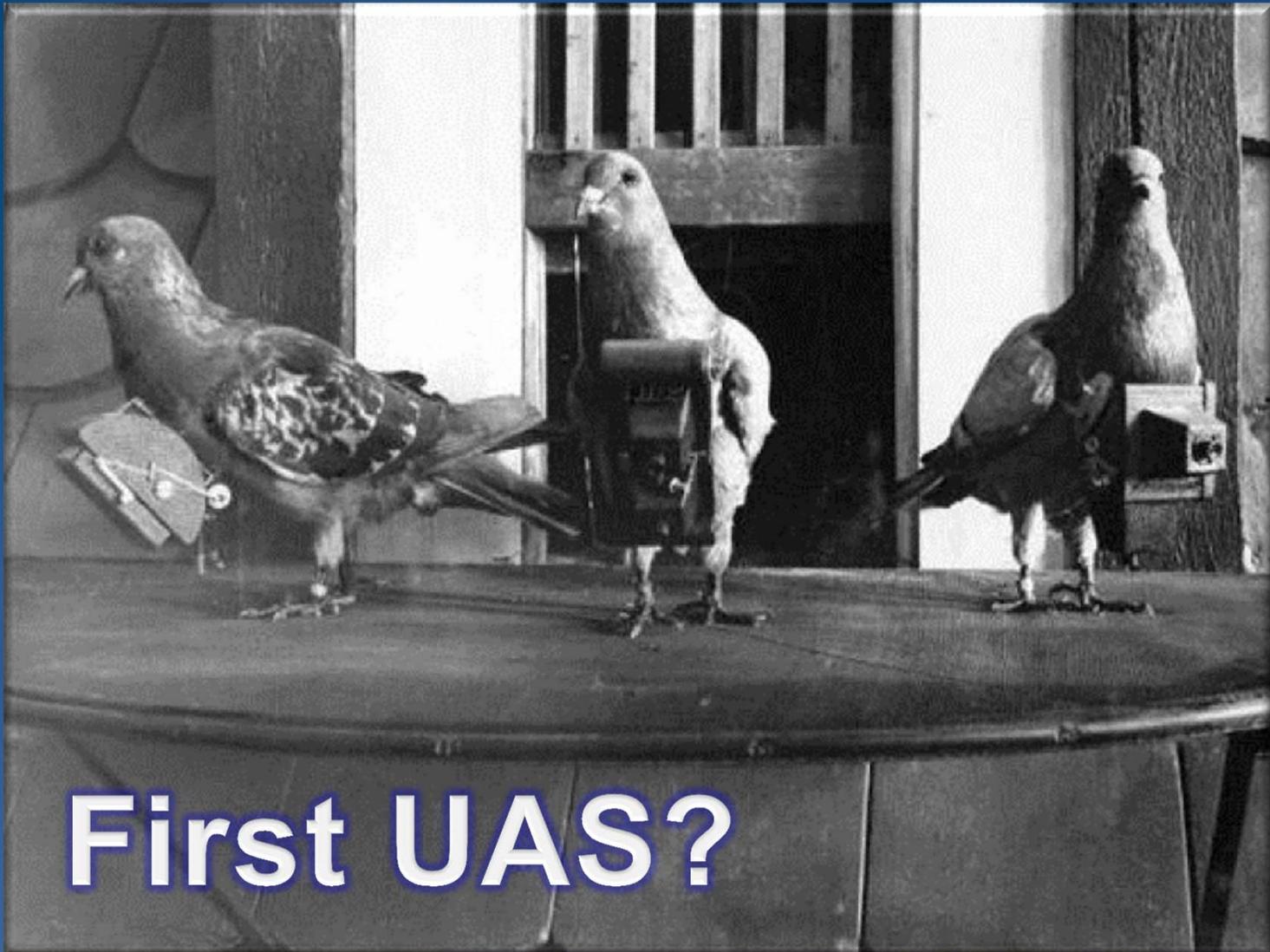
December 5, 2012



# Subjects:

- Technologies
- Agency and vendors uses
- Agency status
- Coordination options

# Technologies



**First UAS?**

# Technologies

- Platforms
  - Airplane, helicopter, lighter than air, hybrid
- Sensors
  - Photos, video, Lidar, other
- Control & Communications
  - RC, programmed, data streaming,
- FAA UAV Regulations & News
  - <http://www.faa.gov/about/initiatives/uas/reg/>

# USDA & Vendors UASs

- **USDA**
  - USFS
    - <http://www.fs.fed.us/t-d/programs/im/aerial/links.shtml>
  - **ARS** Agricultural Research Service
    - <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/sep11/September2011.pdf>
- **ASI** (Aerial Services, Inc.) FSA, USFS, NRCS contracts
  - <http://www.aerialservicesinc.com/about/where/events/uav-webinar-with-mike-tully-aug-22-2012-video-slides/>
- Other agencies or vendors using UASs

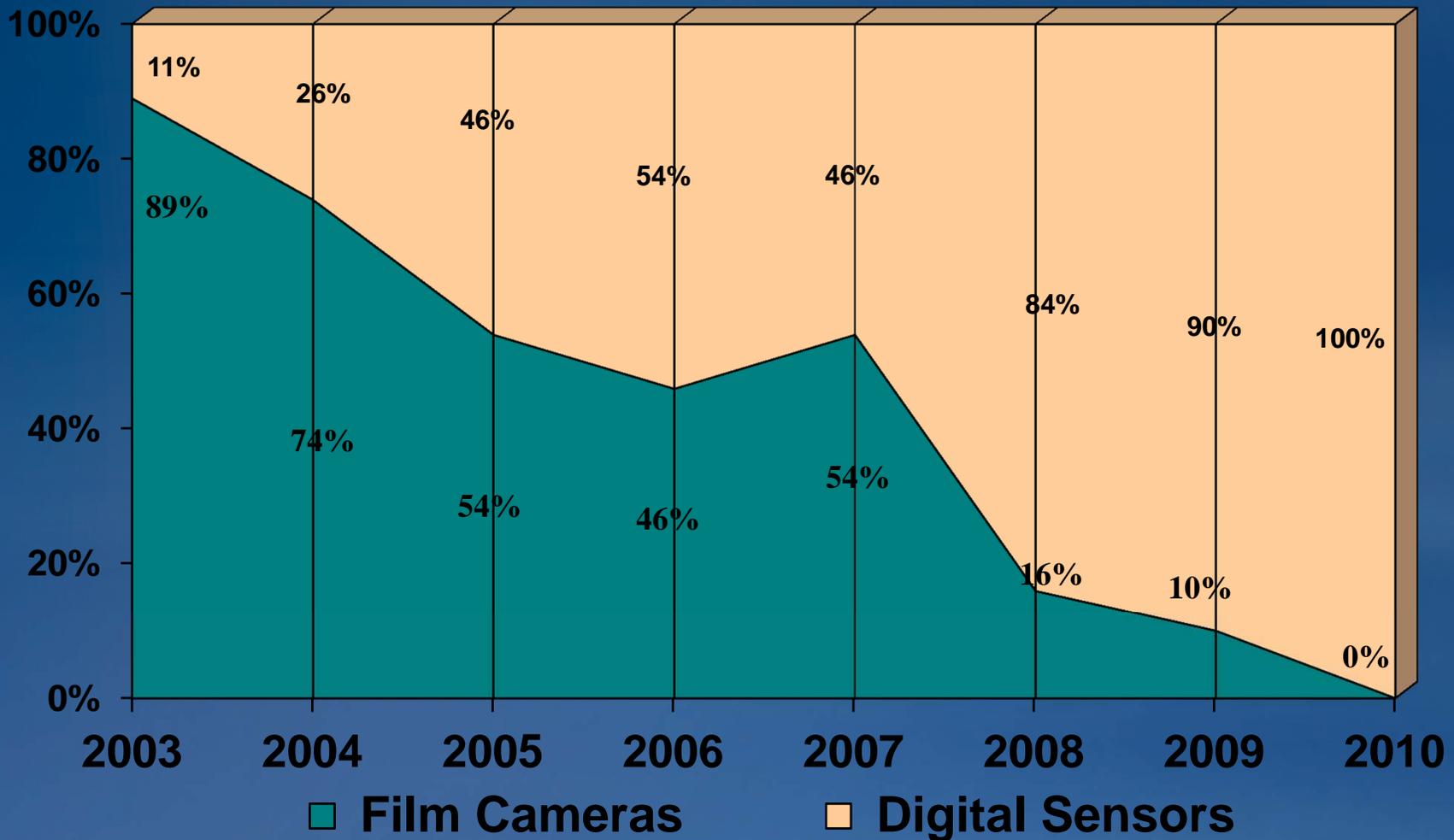
# Image Acquisition Always Changing

Pigeon to Pilot to ?



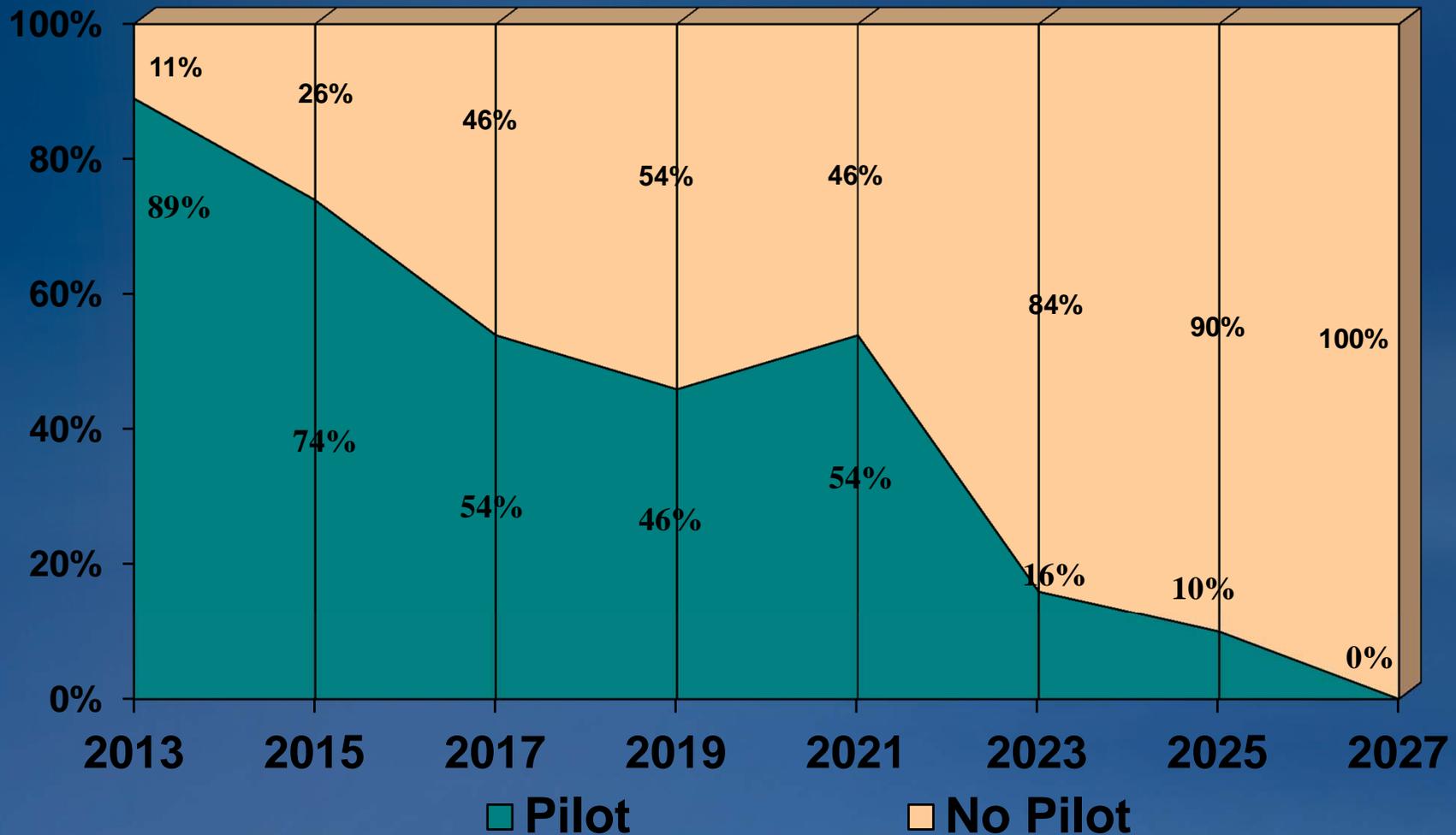
# Rapid Transition

## Film to digital



# Potential Rapid Transition

Pilot to no pilot???



# Current Status

- USFS
  - Variety of UAS projects in the past
  - UAS usage on hold while team develops regulations, coordination, funding, etc.
- ARS
  - ?
- Others
  - ?

# USDA UAS Coordination

- Sharing information between agencies
  - Teleconferences, contact list, SharePoint
  - Current and planned projects
- Coordination teams
  - Inter and Intra agency
  - Regulations, standards, formats, news
- Joint Projects
  - Combine funding, AOIs, WMS, ...

# Comments?



Orville the Cat Copter

<http://www.popsi.com/technology/article/2012-06/video-dutch-artist-turns-his-dead-cat-flying-quadcopter>