



Image courtesy of the Cloncurry Mustering Company

Cloncurry Aerodrome and FTR

Queensland Flight Test Range

The Queensland Flight Test Range (QFTR) is a Queensland Government initiated and sponsored facility, operated by QinetiQ Australia.

The QFTR is based at Cloncurry Aerodrome, located 5km to the north of the township of Cloncurry, in north-west Queensland.

The QFTR is a commercially operated, common user facility available for both for civilian and military use and provides the ideal location to test, trial and evaluate unmanned aerial systems (UAS) and payloads in safe, managed environment.

The QFTR has relatively low levels of conventional aircraft traffic, an excellent 2000-metre primary runway and a graded 1150-metre secondary runway.

The surrounding airspace is 'uncontrolled' Class G airspace with low traffic levels and large areas of unpopulated land below. There are significant airspace volumes of varying dimensions available to meet specific UAS trial requirements.

The QFTR is an integral component of the overall drone ecosystem, as both an enabler and connector of high-technology UAS programs and initiatives.

QINETIQ



**Queensland
Government**

Specifications

Commercial-grade runway	2,000m x 30m
Secondary runway	1,150m x 18m
Flight operations hangar	Lockable, fully insulated 20m x 20m x 7.5m hangar
Workshop and secure storage	Secure air conditioned workshop facilities with storage for petroleum, oil and lubricants and repairable items
Range Control Centre/System	A 12m x 12m modular demountable air-conditioned building containing workstations, offices and briefing areas. RCS components include: – Primary Surveillance Radar – ADS-B Receiver – VHF, UHF Communications

The QFTR facilitates:

- Operational flying of all weight classes of UAS for routine flying operations, flight test and demonstration ranging from simple test manoeuvres and payload testing through to full trials requiring more complex mission control support.
- The safe conduct of trials through the integration of test and evaluation instrumentation with proven range control equipment and processes.
- Approved and licensed operators to conduct their flying operations in a safe and controlled environment.
- BVLOS approvals through the provision of ground based surveillance systems.
- Complex approvals within the existing regulatory framework.

QFTR Services:

In addition to leasing the Range for commercial test and trials, the QinetiQ FTR team offer:

- Airspace design and approval to meet the needs of the end-user trials and manage ground and air risk.
- Trials Safety Case (SORA based) creation and approvals.
- Stakeholder engagement on behalf of end-users.
- Range surveillance safety services (tactical identification of air risk).
- Provision of aeronautical information and weather briefings to facilitate FTR operations.
- Emergency response planning and coordination.
- Operations under a QinetiQ ReOC.



QFTR Facility

Collaborating with QinetiQ

At QinetiQ we bring organisations and people together to provide innovative solutions to real world problems, creating customer advantage. Working with our partners and customers, we collaborate widely, working in partnership, listening hard and thinking through what customers need. Building trusted partnerships, we are helping customers anticipate and shape future requirements, adding value and future advantage.

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