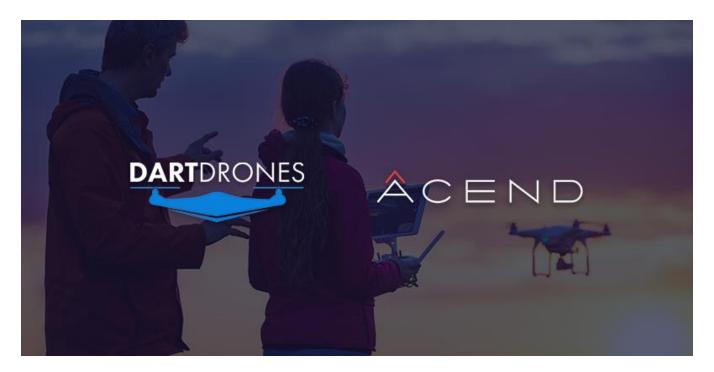Annette LeCompte
annette@acend.io
781-257-2593

**ACEND AND DARTDRONES PARTNER TO HARNESS THE POWER OF TELEMATICS, BIG DATA AND TRAINING TO PROMOTE DRONE OPERATOR SAFETY**
*Acend and DARTdrones integrate UBI technology platform with UAS operator certification course*

**Boston, MA (September 7, 2016):** Acend Inc., a leading telematics, software and data science provider to the insurance industry, and DARTdrones, a national leader in drone training and consultation, have partnered to enhance Acend's usage based drone insurance (UBI) risk scoring through the collaboration of technology and training.

The implementation of Part 107 on Aug 29th has opened up the commercial drone sector to explosive growth. Accessibility to cost-effective usage based drone insurance powered by accurate risk assessment and professional training will be another vital component to continued growth in the commercial sector.

"Acend's usage based insurance model rewards drone operators who have completed flight training through discounted insurance premiums" says Steve Rabbitt, Acend CEO. "Our partnership with DARTdrones, a world class provider of drone flight training, furthers our commitment to enabling safe flight in a post 107 world."

Key components of the partnership include:

- Technology integration of DARTdrones training data into Acend's UBI risk platform
- Utilization of Acend's insurance expertise and data analysis to enhance DARTdrones curriculum
- Value added services to support drone professionals including preferred rates for training and insurance
- Early access to new feature releases and program benefits for DARTdrones course graduates

"We believe training is a key component of maintaining a safe national airspace and safe operators should be rewarded" says Abby Speicher, CEO of DARTdrones. "By partnering with Acend, our clients will have access to buy insurance that fits the way they fly, and we will be able to expand our ability to measure the effect of training on operator safety over time."

**About Acend:**
Acend brings together the power of data, technology, and analytics to deliver usage based insurance to drone operators. Acend's technology platform provides insurance carriers with the process and automation they need to scale, and offers drone operators a better way to access and consume insurance. For more information, please visit: www.acend.io

**About DARTdrones:**
DARTdrones is a national drone training school focused on helping businesses, government entities, and sUAS operators implement drones into their organizations. DARTdrones courses include flight training on the DJI Phantom and Inspire, an in-person and online UAS Ground School course designed to help UAS Operators pass the FAA Airman Knowledge Test, and online specialized training seminars including Aerial Photography, Marketing Your UAS Business, UAS Insurance, and Legal Considerations for UAS Businesses. DARTdrones Flight Instructors are all manned aircraft pilots who provide expert training throughout the United States. www.dartdrones.com