



HUMANITY  
CENTERED  
ROBOTICS  
INITIATIVE



BROWN

## Andy Trench XactSense

### Tech Talk: “Flying robots: Opportunity and Innovation in Drones”



*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*  
*1:00-2:20*  
*CIT 316*

*Abstract:* With smarter and less expensive drone platforms becoming readily available, and the regulation from the FAA paving a clear path for commercial use, drones will play a huge role for many industries today and for the foreseeable future. This talk will cover the path of humble remote controlled aircraft becoming serious professional tools and discuss innovation and opportunity in the drone space today.

Artist, innovator, and entrepreneur living and working in Rhode Island, **Andy Trench** has gone from studying painting at RISD, to founding Xactsense, where he designs, builds, and operates innovative drone hardware and software. Xactsense was founded in 2014 when Andy's hobby of flying RC aircraft turned full time, and the drone industry as we know it today was just first finding its feet. Andy saw, early on, opportunities in 3D mapping and survey with airborne laser scanning and photo-based 3D modeling, building and selling custom aircraft and payloads to service these industries across the country. In 2015 Xactsense was accepted into, and won a top prize, at the startup accelerator, MassChallenge. Andy can be seen speaking at trade shows and industry forums about emerging drone technologies and the benefits of using airborne and remote sensing to increase efficiency and profits. Andy is now developing a software-service focused on delivering accurate measurements and inspection of vertical infrastructure such as cell towers and wind turbines.

Host: Stefanie Tellex/HCRI