

COMSTAC Legal & Regulatory Working Group OFRs

ALR – 1 of 2 – Observations

- ➔ The LRWG **observes**, through COMSTAC’s site visit to the FAA ATC Command Center and the FAA’s presentation to COMSTAC on Acceptable Level of Risk (“ALR”), that the FAA is putting in considerable effort to integrate space and aviation operations in the NAS (“airspace integration”), through projects such as ALR and SDI, among others.
- ➔ The LRWG further **observes** that there remain significant concerns among the space and aviation communities regarding airspace integration, such as the funding and prioritization of these efforts within the FAA, continuing constraints on space and aviation operations around launch, booster recovery, and re-entry activities, and the spaceport licensing process.

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ALR – 2 of 2 – Findings & Recommendations

- ➔ The LRWG **finds** that, with expected increasing launch cadences and the development of new spaceports, it is an immediate priority for the FAA to streamline the process of airspace integration, in particular optimizing airspace closure during launch activities to ensure that space and aviation activities are fully supported.
- ➔ The LRWG **finds** that securing a balance of equities among the space and aviation communities is a critical component of airspace integration.
- ➔ The LRWG **recommends** that the FAA expedite its efforts to develop tools to optimize airspace integration, and adequately fund these efforts.
- ➔ The LRWG **recommends** that the FAA streamline the spaceport licensing process to combine the facility and operations approvals into a single process.

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Streamlining Licensing Process – Observations, Findings and Recommendations

- ➔ The LRWG **observes** that certain aspects of the FAA licensing and inspection processes could be improved with additional tools integrated with those of space and aviation operators.
- ➔ The LRWG **finds** that industry may have insights and resources, such as software tools, that can be recommended to the FAA to help streamline the licensing and inspection process, and will poll its membership to provide those recommendations to the FAA.
- ➔ The LRWG **recommends** that the FAA seek solutions from other government offices, such as EPA and DoE, to the extent that those offices have similar processes to the FAA (e.g., licensing of sites that handle hazardous materials), and periodically update COMSTAC on the progress of its streamlining efforts.