

Report to COMSTAC of the Operations Working Group

(formerly known as the
Space Transportation Operations
Working Group, STOWG)

Presented to: COMSTAC

By: Janet Karika,
OWG Chair

Ray Johnson, OWG Deputy Chair

Date: May 7, 2014



Federal Aviation
Administration



OWG Agenda

Operations Working Group 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Janet C. Karika, Chair

3:00 – 3:10	Introductions, OWG revised portfolio	Janet Karika, Chair
3:10 – 3:30	Title 10 USC, Sec 2276, Commercial Space Launch Cooperation (CSLC)	Maj Brad Myers SAF/AQSL
3:30 – 3:50	Follow-up briefing on AFSPC study: Capabilities Based Assessment for the Ranges	Maj Brad Myers, SAF/AQSL
3:50 – 4:10	Suborbital Commercial Spaceflight Crewmember Medical Issues report update	Dr. Mark Campbell M.D.
4:10 – 4:30	Wrap up/Prepare summary to full COMSTAC	Janet Karika, Chair
4:30 – 5:00	Closed housekeeping session on use of the STAR database (COMSTAC members only)	Mary Carolyn Thies FAA/AST



Operations Working Group (OWG) Overview

- **Operations Working Group Charter**
 - Identifies key launch operations, support, and processing issues affecting U.S. commercial space competitiveness
 - Supports accessibility of new commercial space ventures to launch sites and services
 - Investigates options for commercialization/privatization of launch services, support, and facilities.
- **COMSTAC members**
 - Chair: Janet Karika, Vice Chair, Ray Johnson
 - Brett Alexander
 - Mark Campbell
 - Dan Collins
 - Pete Fahrenthold
 - Oscar Garcia
 - Jeff Greason
 - Michael Lopez-Alegria
 - Carl Rising
 - Mark Sundahl
 - Will Trafton
 - Jennifer Warren



Title 10 USC, Sec 2276

Commercial Space Launch Cooperation (CSLC)

Observation

- **Title 10 USC, Sec2276 provides SecDef authority to enter into agreements with private sector entities to provide space transportation infrastructure support and services through the acceptance of non-federal contributions, requires congressional appropriation to use deposited funds.**

Finding

- **This provision could allow private industry to enable “smart business” contributions to launch/range infrastructure**

Recommendation

- **FAA/AST continue to monitor this effort, request COMSTAC briefings once this provision begins being leveraged by the private sector to better assess commercial industry’s interest**



Air Force Capability-Based Assessment of Launch Ranges Update

Observations

- **AFSPC is examining requirements at their federal launch ranges for opportunities to decrease cost and maintain same risk levels**
 - Part 1 identifies opportunities to right-size the range
 - Part 2 in-depth analysis by The Aerospace Corp to examine more material options, including input from commercial space launch industry
- **Per NSTP, the U.S. shall seek to foster and ensure the availability of domestic space transportation capabilities that are reliable, efficient, affordable, innovative, and competitive for all users.**
- **30SW and 45SW are the busiest ranges in the U.S., their effectiveness affects all users**
- **The decisions resulting from the CBA matter to all users**

Recommendation

- **FAA/AST continue to advocate for commercial users and for outbriefs to stakeholders to occur before decisions are finalized by AFSPC**



Medical Issues for Commercial Suborbital Space Flight Crewmembers

Observation

- Minimal suborbital flight operational experience above 100 km exists

Finding

- Database needs to be expanded, medical evaluations and an independent data repository would be helpful

Recommendations

- FAA/AST should require an FAA First Class medical certificate for pilots with a well defined, documented, and communicated waiver process inherent to medical certification similar to past spaceflight experience
- FAA/AST should periodically re-evaluate medical standards for flight critical crewmembers
- FAA/AST should advocate to the suborbital industry for investigation and documentation on the effects on flight critical crewmembers performance from effects of multiple suborbital flights
- FAA/AST should establish a non-attributable repository for flight critical crewmember medical data

