

# Report to COMSTAC of the Operations Working Group



**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

Presented to: COMSTAC  
By: Janet Karika, OWG Chair  
Wayne Hale, Deputy Chair  
Date: April 28, 2016



# OWG Agenda, 27 Apr 16

## Operations Working Group 1500-1700 hrs, Janet C. Karika, Chair

1500-1515	Space Renaissance Act STM, Spaceports Office, Space Support Vehicles	Christopher Ingraham Senior Legislative Assistant Congressman Bridenstine
1515-1530	CSLCS status, Section 110 and Orbital Traffic Management	Steph Earle FAA AST
1530-1545	CSLCS status, Section 113	Pam Underwood FAA AST
1545-1600	Launch and Test Range System (LTRS) Information Briefing	Lt Col Jertberg HQ AFSPC/A2/3/6 SR
1600-1615	Spaceport Catalog status Spaceport Catalog methodology	Christine Anderson/Bill Khourie
1615-1630	Case for FAA additional funding	Janet Karika, Chair
1630-1700	Drafting OFRs	Janet Karika, Chair



# Space Support Vehicles

## Observations

- **COMSTAC observes that the American Space Renaissance Act (ASRA) supports the use of vehicles for commercial compensation for training of spaceflight participants**
  - Permits the use of hybrid-launch vehicles, which are simultaneously aircraft and launch vehicles, and do not neatly fit into either category.
  - Permits the use of experimental aircraft, such as former military fighter jets, that are not used during launch.
- **COMSTAC observes that the U.S. Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act (CSLCA) includes two reports that are in work to address this issue, the studies are on-going and industry will provide input.**
  - Report 105 requests an FAA study
  - Report 116 requests a GAO study

## Recommendation

- **COMSTAC recommends that the FAA AST should facilitate a briefing to the OWG once the studies are completed.**



# Section 110: Space Surveillance and Situational Awareness Data

## Observation

- **COMSTAC observes that the CSLCA requests FAA AST to study the feasibility of processing and releasing safety-related space situational awareness data and information to any entity consistent with national security interests and public safety obligations of the United States, in concurrence with DoD and others.**

## Recommendation

- **COMSTAC recommends that the FAA AST should facilitate a briefing to the OWG once the study is completed.**



# Space Traffic Management (STM)

## Observation

- **COMSTAC observes the ASRA proposes to authorize the DoT to gather data to provide SSA services and information to customers including the Federal government, foreign countries, and commercial entities.**

## Finding

- **COMSTAC finds that there are a range of options available from a USG operated architecture to a system that incorporates existing commercial sensors and data processing.**

## Recommendation

- **COMSTAC recommends that FAA AST advocate for commercial interests to be incorporated into potential plans FAA AST is building into STM throughout the planning process.**
- **COMSTAC recommends that the FAA AST should brief the OWG on approved provisions of the ASRA that implement elements of STM.**
- **COMSTAC recommends that the FAA AST begin the process of scoping the work required up to and including cost estimates for an STM demonstration.**



# Section 113: Streamline Commercial Space Launch Activities

## Observation

- The CSLCA requests that the FAA assess the current process for the license/permit application and approval for commercial launch and reentry; describe current efforts to streamline, reduce duplication, etc.; and recommend legislation that may further streamline/consolidate etc., in consultation with the DoD, NASA and others.

## Recommendation

- COMSTAC recommends that the FAA AST should facilitate a briefing to the OWG once the study is completed.



# Air Force Commercial Range Requirements

## Observations

- **COMSTAC** observes the commercial launch providers' requirements at the Federal Ranges are increasing and becoming more complex.
- **COMSTAC** observes that **AFSPC** is examining requirements at their federal launch ranges to meet all user requirements efficiently while maintaining range safety.

## Finding

- **COMSTAC** finds that commercial launch providers need strong advocates within the Federal Government to communicate their unique commercial requirements at the Federal Launch Ranges.

## Recommendation

- **COMSTAC** recommends that the **FAA AST** continue to work with **NASA**, **USAF**, and other relevant departments and agencies to communicate unique commercial launch provider requirements to the Federal Launch Ranges and **FAA** licensed spaceports as appropriate.



# Spaceport Catalog

## Observation

- **COMSTAC observes that there is sufficient support within industry, government, and Congress for the creation of a Spaceport Catalog.**
  - The ASRA advocates for the creation of an Office of Spaceports within the FAA AST.
  - Six FAA licensed Spaceports have provided data to populate a Spaceport Catalog.
  - The FAA AST supports the development of a Spaceport Catalog.

## Finding

- **COMSTAC finds the proposed catalog is useful for commercial companies (and possibly governmental agencies) in need of spaceport services.**

## Recommendations

- **COMSTAC recommends that the FAA AST should include the catalog on its website.**
- **COMSTAC recommends that the COMSTAC and the FAA AST should work collaboratively to develop the process for updates.**



# The Case for FAA AST Funding

## Observations

- **COMSTAC observes that the FAA AST needs increased resources to fulfill its mission in an efficient and timely manner.**
- **COMSTAC observes that the FAA AST's budget was flat, approximately \$17M in both FY15 and FY16.**

## Recommendation

- **COMSTAC recommends that FAA AST provide information on the impacts of funding below the President's Budget Request level, \$19.8M, to the COMSTAC.**

