COMSTAC BLWG OFRs

April 1, 2015
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- **Observation:** COMSTAC observes that Congress has authorized FAA AST to promulgate regulations, consistent with the evolving state of the commercial human spaceflight industry, to promote the safety of crew and spaceflight participants. – **AFFIRMED**

- **Observation:** COMSTAC observes that industry standards are a key part of producing a culture of continuous safety improvement, but industry is not always willing to develop such standards. – **AFFIRMED**

- **Recommendation:** COMSTAC recommends that FAA AST should identify at least three recommendations for potential standards for commercial human spaceflight each year. Standards should be tightly focused – for example, on a specific system or practice which has given FAA AST cause for concern. – **AFFIRMED**

- **Recommendation:** COMSTAC recommends that FAA AST should continue to ensure that the safety experience of all vehicles and operators is made known publicly. – **AFFIRMED**
Recommendation: COMSTAC recommends that FAA AST should act as an impartial source of data for commercial human spaceflight participants so that they can compare the safety experience of operators. – **AFFIRMED**

Recommendation: COMSTAC recommends that the current safety regime as described in the CSLA, as amended, should be extended from October 1, 2015 to October 1, 2020. During this period, FAA AST shall enter into a dialogue with industry to identify relevant inputs and to develop a framework that promotes ever-increasing levels of safety in the industry. – **AFFIRMED**
Recommendation: The COMSTAC recommends that the current safety regime as described in the CSLA as amended, should be extended from October 1, 2015 to October 1, 2020. During this period, the FAA shall foster continuous improvement in commercial human spaceflight safety by:

• Informing industry when it becomes aware of safety-related incidents that are relevant to the industry; and
• Working with COMSTAC and industry to develop practices and/or standards to reduce the likelihood of similar future incidents and as appropriate, use them as a basis for regulation within the existing framework of the CSLA. – AFFIRMED
Recommendation: COMSTAC recommends that FAA AST convey COMSTAC support to Congress for granting the FAA the authority to establish a process for issuing a Mission License, for any space-based activity that is not under the jurisdiction of an existing government agency, to any applicant seeking to affirm that its space-based activity:

a. Is in compliance with the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, and

b. Does not create harmful interference with the activities of other duly authorized space-based activities, and

c. Will not harm foreign or domestic historic artifacts. – AFFIRMED

Recommendation: COMSTAC recommends that the Executive Branch should identify an agency to maintain a registry of Mission Licenses, and FAA AST should be authorized to require any Mission Licensee to provide updated information if there is a material change to their operations that may affect the above affirmations. – AFFIRMED