

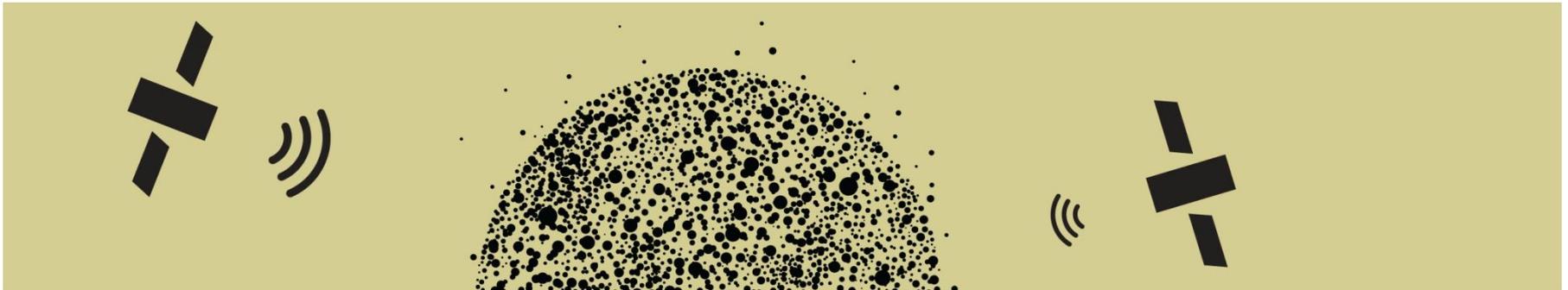


XL CATLIN

COMSTAC BLWG Outbrief

October 21, 2015

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Agenda

- **Future of Commercial Space**
 - **Alex MacDonald, NASA**
 - **Phil McAlister, NASA**
 - **Ben Roberts, OSTP**
- **Informed Consent**
 - **Mike Machula, FAA AST**
 - **Glenn Rizner, FAA AST**
- **Review 3 OFRs**

- **Observation: COMSTAC observes that the U.S. is currently dependent on Russia to transport its astronauts to the International Space Station.**
- **Finding: COMSTAC finds that regaining the ability to transport astronauts to and from Low Earth Orbit (“LEO”) is critical for NASA and the nation as a whole.**
- **Recommendation: COMSTAC recommends that, in any interagency discussion or dialogue with Congressional policymakers, FAA AST should support full funding of the FY 2016 Presidential Budget Request for the Commercial Crew program.**

- **Observation: COMSTAC observes that NASA has stated that it will not develop another government space station in LEO after the retirement of the International Space Station (“ISS”), and that the private sector will be encouraged to exploit LEO opportunities.**
- **Finding: COMSTAC finds that the U.S. should maintain a presence in LEO after the retirement of the ISS, and the private sector is developing capabilities to deploy and operate commercial space stations. Actions must be taken now to ensure that such private sector space stations succeed, ensuring that the U.S. leverages the partnership, progress, and experience gained from the ISS program.**
- **Recommendation: COMSTAC recommends that, in any interagency discussion or dialogue with Congressional policymakers, FAA AST should support the development of private sector space stations – and eventual transition from ISS to these private sector space stations – in order to maintain America’s presence in space, as it has had since 2000.**

- **Observation: COMSTAC observes that NASA plans to support the robust development of cislunar space as a precursor to human missions to Mars.**
- **Finding: COMSTAC finds that the private sector has many capabilities that NASA could leverage to support human exploration beyond LEO.**
- **Recommendation: COMSTAC recommends that, in any interagency discussion or dialogue with Congressional policymakers, FAA AST should encourage, facilitate, and promote the use of private sector capabilities for government human spaceflight exploration programs beyond LEO.**