

Our Mission

To ensure protection of the public, property, and national security and foreign policy interests of the United States during commercial launch or re-entry activities and to encourage, facilitate, and promote U.S. commercial space transportation.

Our Vision

To be recognized as the world's foremost authority on commercial space transportation.

For more information, contact:
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Commercial Space Transportation
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Federal Aviation
Administration

FAA Office of Commercial
Space Transportation

International Outreach



Commercial Space Transportation

Spaceflight in the United States is divided into three main sectors: civil, military, and commercial. The FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation (AST) regulates and promotes U.S. commercial space transportation. AST has licensed more than 200 launches since 1989 and has issued licenses to eight non-Federal launch sites or commercial spaceports.

it is important to remember that when operating outside the U.S., any commercial entity organized under U.S. law must, at a minimum, obtain an FAA license and comply with FAA regulations.

In the future, AST envisions commercial human spaceflight maturing beyond suborbital flights in individual nations, into point-to-point regional and intercontinental travel.

Outreach Activities

AST works with domestic partners through advisory committees, conferences and meetings, and hosts the Commercial Space Transportation Conference each year in Washington, DC. Current AST events, regulations, safety reports, and launch forecasts can be found on the AST website at: www.faa.gov/go/ast



Opportunities for Collaboration

The advancement of commercial space transportation capabilities presents a unique set of global challenges, leading to opportunities for international cooperation. In response to these developments, AST is sharing its regulatory philosophy with countries interested in developing new spaceports and/or hosting any U.S. commercial launch vehicles. For countries interested in attracting U.S. vehicles,

Effective growth will require coordination among numerous countries to establish a common foundation of safety and ensure global interoperability. AST looks forward to working with international partners during this new era of commercial space transportation.



In the global realm, AST has presented papers at international conferences and symposia and held one-on-one bilateral discussions with several nations. AST also chairs the Commercial Spaceflight Safety Committee within the International Astronautical Federation. The committee facilitates the exchange of information to assist government and industry partners in planning for international activity. For more information, visit <http://www.iafastro.org/index.php?id=1015>