

HISTORY OF THE FORECAST REPORTS



Federal Aviation Administration

One of the goals of the FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation (AST) is to foster a healthy commercial space launch capability in the United States. In 1993, the U.S. Department of Transportation requested that the Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee (COMSTAC) prepare an annual commercial GSO satellite launch demand forecast to present the commercial space launch industry's view of future space launch requirements. COMSTAC, working with U.S. launch service providers, prepared the first forecast in April 1993 as part of a report on commercial space launch systems requirements. This forecast was called the **Commercial Spacecraft Mission Model Update** and was prepared by the COMSTAC Technology and Innovation Working Group. In 1994, U.S. satellite manufacturers and satellite service providers began to contribute to the forecast. In 1995, AST formally chartered COMSTAC to prepare the forecast. This forecast was published as the annual mission model until 1999.

With the emergence of the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) market, AST also determined that there was a need to develop an assessment of demand for commercial launch services to non-Geosynchronous orbits and in 1995, AST published the LEO Commercial Market Projections. In 1999, the two forecast reports were combined into the Commercial Space Transportation Forecasts. In 2000, the Mission Model Update became the **COMSTAC Commercial Geostationary Launch Demand Model** and the LEO Commercial Market Projections became the **Commercial Space Transportation Projections for Non-Geosynchronous Orbits (NGSO)**.

In 2012, AST published the first **Suborbital Reusable Vehicles: A 10-Year Forecast of Market Demand**, to provide information for government and industry decision makers on the emerging Suborbital Reusable Vehicle (SRV) market by analyzing market dynamics, especially areas of uncertainty and lack of awareness of SRV capabilities.

