

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION
ON INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL SPACE TRANSPORTATION

BETWEEN

THE NATIONAL SPACE POLICY SECRETARIAT OF THE CABINET OFFICE OF JAPAN

AND THE

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, the National Space Policy Secretariat ("NSPS") of the Cabinet Office of Japan and the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") of the Department of Transportation of the United States of America, share a common interest in promoting mutual cooperation in commercial space transportation;

WHEREAS, the NSPS is empowered by the Act on Launching Spacecraft and Launch Vehicle and Control of Spacecraft with the assessment of launches of spacecraft and launch vehicles using a launch site located in Japan or onboard a ship or aircraft with Japanese nationality and is authorized to cooperate to achieve its missions;

WHEREAS, the Administrator of the FAA is authorized to regulate U.S. commercial space transportation to encourage, facilitate, and promote commercial space transportation activities;

WHEREAS, cooperation between the NSPS and the FAA in accordance with this memorandum of cooperation would encourage the promotion of safety of commercial space transportation in Japan and the United States;

NOW THEREFORE, the NSPS and the FAA (collectively, the "Participants," and individually, a "Participant") share the intention set out in this Memorandum of Cooperation, herein afterward referred to as the "MOC":

I. OBJECTIVES

- A. Pursuant to this MOC, the Participants intend to share best practices applicable to commercial space transportation, as well as the promotion of industry standards, with the objective of collaborating on projects and matters of mutual interest.

- B. The objectives of this MOC may be achieved by cooperation in the following areas including but not limited to:
 - 1. The exchange of information regarding law, regulations, policies, programs and projects, and publicly available research results and publications;
 - 2. The exploring commonality in safety standards, risk management criteria, and compliance evaluation for the launch, re-entry of space vehicles, suborbital flights, human space flight, and/or spaceports;
 - 3. The sharing of best practices;
 - 4. The joint organization of symposia, workshops, conferences or working groups.

II. IMPLEMENTATION

- A. Cooperation under this MOC is subject to the availability of funds and other necessary resources, and in line with the applicable domestic laws and regulations of Japan and the United States.
- B. Each Participant intends to bear its own costs of the activities it performs under this MOC.
- C. Representatives from the Participants intend to meet periodically.
- D. The Participants intend to notify each other within 30 days to establish a working agenda and appropriate points of contact to be responsible for the coordination and management of any cooperative activities under this MOC.
- E. Specific cooperative activities undertaken pursuant to this MOC, depending on the nature of the specific project, may require conditions that are to be delineated and described in a separate arrangement.

III. NATURE AND DURATION OF THE MOC

- A. This MOC is non-binding. Participants do not bear any liability in connection with this MOC. By signing this MOC, the Participants intend to contribute to the project in good faith.
- B. This MOC will commence on the date of the last signature.
- C. Either Participant may discontinue this MOC at any time by giving notice in writing to the other Participant. The Participants intend to provide no less than sixty (60) days' notice of discontinuation.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

BY: 
Bryan Bedford

TITLE: Administrator

DATE: August 31, 2026

PLACE: Washington, DC

NATIONAL SPACE POLICY SECRETARIAT
CABINET OFFICE
JAPAN

BY: 
RYUZAKI Takatsugu

TITLE: Director-General

DATE: August 31, 2026

PLACE: Washington, DC