Request for Information on Scope of Civil Space Situational Awareness Services, 01/26/2023

1 message

Thu, Feb 23, 2023 at 8:07 PM

To: space.commerce@noaa.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to hear from individuals concerning the basic services NOAA should offer in the OSC space catalog. Besides being a professional in this industry, I'm also a citizen-scientist and fully embrace open source services as a very important model in the pursuit of future scientific discoveries and nascent commercial endeavors.

A most important and basic set of services, currently not specifically listed, is offering data, as currently being done with space-track.org. If one has the data, then nearly all the services mentioned can be calculated.

Commercial companies can fuse space data sources, using the US Government's Space Surveillance Network (SSN) and other viable SSA sources. They in turn, can offer basic and advanced services to existing and prospective clients. However, there is a need for the US Government to continue to offer these services when space-track.org retires and at least for the time being, augment commercial offerings.

Keeping the space data free provides a competitive advantage, referencing what Dr. Morgan mentioned in his SmallSat Symposium 2023 presentation. This improves the likelihood that the world will continue to accept the USSPACECOMM NORAD_CAT_ID as the worldwide defacto numbering system.

Basic service offerings, at a minimum, would be the TLE(deprecated), CCSDS General Perturbation (GP), and the Orbital Element Message (OEM). The CCSDS data products should be in KVN, XML, and JSON format.

Hopefully NOAA will provide access to the space data within their repository so consumers can leverage other NOAA sites at the same time (such as space weather) and be able to 'data wrangle' new viewpoints from the various NOAA products. Access to this data is an extremely valuable capability for research.

If NOAA decides to offer all these services, then are they free to all? I support their need and desire to continue offering these services. But also, I'm responding to the RFI to give the decision makers a viewpoint on their need to keep the data free.

Thank you,

[Name removed], 23Feb23