



Space Commerce Highlights

News from the Office of Space Commerce

April 2025

* * *

From the Acting Director

Colleagues and friends,

As OSC's Acting Director, I'm pleased to introduce the first Office of Space Commerce newsletter of 2025.

During this dynamic period of change, the Office of Space Commerce remains steadfast and focused on fulfilling our responsibilities – including serving as an advocate and facilitator for the U.S. space industry, providing light-touch regulation in support of private remote sensing, and working to meet our Space Policy Directive-3 responsibilities for space situational awareness. Thanks to all of you who have expressed support for us in recent weeks, I'm pleased to report that we have built a productive working relationship with our new leadership as we execute on our important mission areas.

2025 is already another standout year for the commercial space sector – and the Office of Space Commerce. We have several engagements on the horizon across all our divisions. Stay tuned on our public engagement channels for more details.



I look forward to our continuing work together!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice".

Janice Starzyk
Acting Director (Deputy Director), NOAA OSC



OSC Seeks Industry Input on SSA Data and Services Contract Structure

On April 15, 2025, the Office of Space Commerce released a Request for Information seeking input on the structure of a future multi-vendor contract structure for obtaining space situational awareness data and services.

The program is seeking industry input on the attributes of a BPA or IDIQ that would allow flexibility and maximal participation by vendors. The program is also seeking input from industry on other acquisition vehicles that might address the need to engage broadly with the commercial SSA industry for data and services for TraCSS. Responses will help shape OSC's acquisition strategy for commercial data and services to integrate into the Traffic Coordination System for Space.

[View the Request for Information on SAM.gov.](#)

Responses to this Request for Information are due no later than **12:00 p.m. (EDT), May 6, 2025.**

* * *

OSC Solicits White Papers for TraCSS Research & Technology Development

On March 14, 2025, the Office of Space Commerce issued a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) requesting white papers that could lead to proposals and up to \$9.9M in funded research to enhance and advance space situational awareness (SSA) and space traffic coordination (STC) technologies.

OSC is interested in white papers on the topics of SSA data, conjunction assessment, risk assessment, and general SSA technologies.

To be eligible for consideration and possible contract award, the technology or methodology shall be either basic research, applied research, advanced technology development not for a specific system/hardware, or demonstration and validation.

An interested party must submit a white paper in order to be eligible for further consideration. Only white papers will be accepted as initial submissions; formal proposals will be accepted by invitation only.

The due date for white paper submissions is May 30, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. ET.

[View the solicitation at SAM.gov](#)



TraCSS Publishes User Agreement & Data Policy

In March 2025, the Traffic Coordination System for Space released its first official **Data and Information Policy and User Agreement**. The TraCSS data policy leads the world in openness and transparency, consistent with Space Policy Directive-3, enabling global space safety and the continued growth of commercial space activities.

This policy was developed hand-in-hand with the commercial space industry, through multiple listening sessions and building directly on industry best practices. TraCSS will continue to update and improve the policy over time.

The Office of Space Commerce welcomes public comment on these documents via email to TraCSS.Commerce@noaa.gov.

* * *

OSC Publishes TraCSS FAQs

In response to stakeholder interest in the Traffic Coordination System for Space, the Office of Space Commerce has published a TraCSS "Frequently Asked Questions" webpage.

This page provides answers and guidance to common questions regarding the program - such as TraCSS' current priorities, how OSC is engaging with commercial satellite operators, and where to find current opportunities to get involved with TraCSS.

The TraCSS "FAQs" webpage may be accessed on the Office of Space Commerce website, [here](#).

To submit additional questions for consideration, [contact us](#).

* * *

TraCSS "Industry Innovation" Inbox

OSC welcomes collaboration from industry, academia, and international partners to advance the state-of-the-art in space traffic coordination and space situational awareness. To better facilitate this engagement with stakeholders, the TraCSS program has established a new email inbox to receive unsolicited stakeholder concepts and ideas: tracss.innovation@noaa.gov.

For more information (*and caveats*) regarding submissions to the Innovation email inbox, visit the [TraCSS FAQs webpage](#).

Stakeholder Engagements

OSC/NIST Host Seminar on “Circular Space Economy”

On February 13, the Office of Space Commerce and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) hosted a public seminar on building a circular space economy.

The circular space economy concept aims to utilize space-based resources sustainably through innovative approaches, minimizing waste and maximizing the reuse and recycling of materials in space operations.



To access a recording of the event, visit the webpage [here](#).

* * *

Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity - an Open Forum

On Thursday, May 1, the Office of Space Commerce, in partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technology partnership with Red Hat, will co-host a public event, "Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity - an Open Forum," at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, D.C.

For more information, agenda, speakers, and to register, [visit the event's webpage](#).

This in-person event will be an opportunity to hear from leading experts, practitioners, and representatives from state and federal agencies about cybersecurity strategies to unleash innovation and accelerate the development of a space based economy.

* * *

Advocating for Industry with International Partners

Throughout the start of 2025, the OSC team has remained actively engaged with international partners – advocating for U.S. industry and strengthening bilateral and multilateral ties. In March 2025, on the margins of the SATELLITE 2025 conference in Washington, the Office of Space Commerce participated in multiple side events that promoted commercial space cooperation with other nations.



On March 12, OSC's **Gabriel Swiney** joined experts from the Space Foundation, Argentina's space agency (CONAE), and United Arab Emirates satellite firm Space42 at the Meridian International Center for a panel discussion on how aligning commercial space policies can drive economic growth, expand market access, and reinforce international security in an increasingly contested domain.

* * *

On March 13, **NOAA Deputy Assistant Secretary Juan Caro** delivered opening remarks on the third day of the U.S.-Argentina Strategic Space Consultations, which focused on collaboration in the commercial space sector. In the afternoon, OSC facilitated a roundtable discussion that brought together U.S. and Argentine companies to discuss space business opportunities.



* * *



Also on March 13, at the France-U.S. Space Industry Day, OSC's **Rose Croshier** joined colleagues from the Embassy of France, FAA, and State Department to present joint recommendations from the U.S.-France Commercial Space Working Group. **Deputy Assistant Secretary Caro** dropped in on a panel discussion of space export control regulations.

The government-industry event followed up on efforts to strengthen bilateral business ties under the U.S.-France Comprehensive Dialogue on Space.

* * *

On March 17 at the Embassy of Germany, **OSC Acting Director Janice Starzyk** delivered keynote remarks to a delegation of German companies on a space trade mission to the United States. Fourteen companies pitched their businesses to potential U.S. industrial partners and heard from experts about the U.S. commercial space market, including trends, challenges, and opportunities for U.S.-German collaboration.





On April 14, U.S. and Republic of Korea (ROK) officials met in Washington, DC, for the fourth U.S.-ROK Civil Space Dialogue. Represented by **Jason Kim** and **Carolyn Pace**, the Office of Space Commerce discussed commercial space policy, space situational awareness, and opportunities for industrial partnerships. Both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in space exploration, Earth observation, and regulatory collaboration. They committed to holding the dialogue every two years, with the next meeting in the ROK in 2027.

* * *

On April 15, Acting Director **Janice Starzyk**, along with **Jason Kim** and **Carolyn Pace**, attended the ROK-U.S. Commercial Space Seminar at Meridian House, Washington, D.C. Organized with the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and KASA, the seminar included 16 U.S. and 13 South Korean space companies discussing space policy and collaboration opportunities



* * *



OSC continues to work with international partners to advance efforts to enable its **Vision for Global SSA Coordination** in support of spaceflight safety.

In January 2025, **Mariel Borowitz**, Head of International SSA Engagement, participated in UN Sustainability Days, which featured a simulation exercise examining the practical challenges in global space situational awareness data-sharing and space traffic coordination.

Space Situational Awareness and Space Traffic Coordination were significant topics at the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space Science and Technical Subcommittee meeting in February 2025, which included a UAE proposal to create an Expert Group to focus on Global Space Situational Awareness coordination.

DOC/NOAA leads US team for African Space Agency Inauguration and NewSpace Africa 2025

OSC's **Rose Croshier** coordinated a senior U.S. gov interagency delegation, to include DOC/NOAA, DOS, DOD, and NASA, to attend the African Space Agency (AfSA) Inaugural Ceremony on April 20th, followed by the NewSpace Africa Conference April 21-24th. The new AfSA building is located in the same complex as the Egyptian Space Agency in "Space City," Cairo.



DAS Juan Caro walking with U.S. Ambassador to the African Union, Stephanie Sullivan, and U.S. delegation.

The DOC delegation, led by **Juan Caro**, NOAA's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Space and International Affairs, and assisted by NOAA IAA's **Alexandra Wisner**, met with the newly elected African Space Council (AfSC) President, Dr. Ouattara, and Vice President, Ms Mbvundula. Mr Caro reinforced US commitment to working with AfSA and its 55 member states to build and maintain compatibility, services and data; promote the adoption of policies and practices that facilitate timely access to satellite data; and encourage commercial space sector practices that are consistent with U.S. standards - especially concerning spaceflight safety.

At the Africa NewSpace Conference, the U.S. delegation met with Egypt, the UAE, Angola, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Morocco, Bahrain, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, and Kenya, in addition to numerous sidebars with civil, commercial and government representatives.



US Booth at NewSpace Africa 2025

DAS Caro also joined U.S. industry roundtables with the Egyptian Space Agency (EgSA), and separately, the US Ambassador to the African Union.

ITA's **Scott Pozil**, Foreign Commercial Service, orchestrated the inclusion of several U.S. companies to include Astranis, Cisco, Hawkeye 360, Maxar, Princeton Satellite Systems, Slingshot Aerospace, among others, which made the U.S. booth a dynamic hub.

OSC's "Standards Corner"

Space Standards Development:

Welcome to OSC's inaugural "Standards Corner." To foster the economic growth and technological advancement of the U.S. commercial space industry, OSC participates in the development and promotion of technical standards by standards development organizations as well as coordination groups led by government agencies and trade organizations. OSC will be providing opportunities to stakeholders to provide comments on draft standards and describe those here in our new Standards Corner.



In addition, more information about standard developing organizations supporting space standards development will be made available in future Standards Corner issues, including information from the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Technical Committee 20 (Aircraft and Space Vehicles), **Subcommittee 14** (Space Systems and Operations) and the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (**CCSDS**).

OSC Seeks Comment on Draft ISO Space Traffic Coordination Standard:

ISO/CD3 9490 is a committee draft of an international standard for space traffic coordination. The draft is currently open for comment, with the Office of Space Commerce soliciting stakeholder input for Subcommittee 14 review of the draft standard.

ISO/CD3 9490 specifies requirements for the coordination of space traffic, which support the aim to promote the safe and efficient use of space. This standard levies requirements of a Space Traffic Coordination (STC) system so that it will provide high availability, timely, comprehensive and sufficiently accurate services. Currently, it is a draft document and provided only for personal reference and comments. Comments are welcome from stakeholders as described on OSC website [here](#).

Get Involved:

Interested U.S. stakeholders may participate in standards development working groups and be members of the U.S. Technical Advisory Committee for ISO Technical Committee 20. The no-fee membership provides the opportunity to shape standards development.

Reach out to dianne.poster@noaa.gov if you are interested in more information.

Across Commerce

NOAA's Commercial Data Program Announces Radio Occultation Objectives

In January 2025, NOAA/NESDIS completed a Phase 1 of the Radio Occultation (RO) Analysis of Alternatives (AoA) to assess constellation concepts for Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) RO capabilities, as the set of six COSMIC-2 satellites reach the end of their operational life.

[View the report at noaa.gov.](#)

The findings highlight the need for a sufficient number of well-distributed GNSS-RO observations, along with enhancement in data refresh rates and reduced latency.



To effectively address these needs, NOAA plans to procure commercial RO data-as-a-service from diverse and coordinated orbits. Observations within the equatorial regions are especially important for improving latency and data refresh into weather prediction models.

NOAA will seek to increase RO commercial data acquisitions in the equatorial regions as COSMIC-2 degrades in addition to increasing RO commercial data purchases in the polar and mid-latitude regions.

* * *

BEA Releases New & Revised Statistics for the U.S. Space Economy

On March 31, the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) published "new and revised statistics for the U.S. space economy, 2012-2023." View the statistics and read more on BEA's website, [here](#).

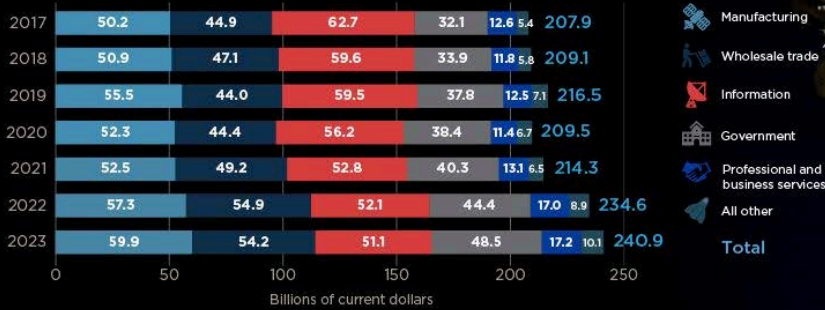
BEA found that the space economy accounted for \$142.5 billion, or 0.5 percent, of total U.S. GDP in 2023. Real GDP grew by 0.6 percent in the space economy, reflecting the second consecutive year of positive real growth. The statistics also show the space economy accounted for \$240.9 billion of gross output in 2023, and \$57.9 billion of private-sector compensation, and supported 373,000 private-sector jobs.

Exploring the Space Economy

How do we measure it?

One way: by measuring industries' space-related gross output, which is principally measured as an industry's sales or receipts.

Gross Output by Industry Group



Note: Industry group levels may not sum to total levels due to rounding.

Please see www.bea.gov/data/special-topics/space-economy for the most up-to-date space economy statistics.

Photo: NASA/Josh Vasek



* * *

Connect With Us!

- Website: space.commerce.gov
- Contact Us: space.commerce.gov/contact-us
- TraCSS: space.commerce.gov/tracss
- LinkedIn: [Office of Space Commerce](#)
- X: [@CommerceinSpace](#)