



Space Commerce Highlights

News from the Office of Space Commerce

November 2024

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From the Director

Colleagues & friends,

On behalf of the Office of Space Commerce team - we hope those of you based in the United States had a relaxing Thanksgiving break!

While 2024 quickly comes to a close and the holiday season is upon us, the team at the Office of Space Commerce is as hard at work as ever. Late last month, we announced the contract award for the TraCSS "Presentation Layer" (the system's graphical user interface) - a key step in the program's development as we prepare to migrate users over to a dedicated TraCSS.gov website.

We also held a public listening session on updates to TraCSS' Data Sharing Policy, and are seeking your feedback and recommendations on best practices for open data sharing. Your inputs are critical as we develop the TraCSS system and all its elements. This isn't the only opportunity to offer your inputs; the Departments of Commerce and State announced last month that the deadline for your recommendations to our U.S. space export control rulemakings has been extended through December 23.

The year is coming to a close, but there is still much in store for December. You can follow our latest updates on our social media and public channels and, as always, we encourage you to reach out and engage.



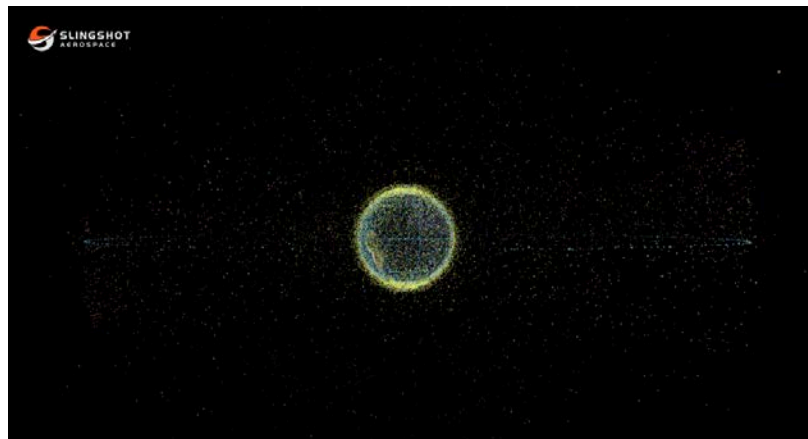
I look forward to hearing from you,



TraCSS Presentation Layer Contract Award

On November 25, 2024, **NOAA awarded a contract** to Slingshot Aerospace, Inc., of El Segundo, California, to provide the website and user experience, or Presentation Layer, for the Traffic Coordination System for Space (TraCSS).

Under the contract, Slingshot will work with the TraCSS system integrator to launch the TraCSS.gov website in preparation for user migration from Space-Track.org during Fiscal Year 2025. The contract has a base year value of \$5.3 million with options to extend up to four more years.



*A visualization of the 10,000+ active satellites in orbit today
– provided by Slingshot Aerospace.*

TraCSS is being released in several phases. TraCSS Phase 1.0, launched in September 2024, is generating and delivering conjunction data messages (CDMs) to a beta user group representing approximately 1,000 operational satellites. TraCSS CDMs are currently distributed via the Space-Track.org website managed by the Department of Defense. In the future, TraCSS CDMs and other services will be delivered via TraCSS.gov.

Slingshot Aerospace is a space technology company focused on improving space safety, sustainability, and security. Its space traffic coordination product, Slingshot Beacon, will provide the starting point and framework for the TraCSS presentation layer. Beacon is a spaceflight coordination and communication platform designed to reduce the risk of on-orbit collisions by providing satellite operators with a centralized tool to exchange data and coordinate maneuvers.

TraCSS Listening Session on Updated TraCSS Data Sharing Policy

On Tuesday, November 19, OSC held a TraCSS listening session on the Updated TraCSS Data Sharing Policy. This public session was an opportunity for stakeholders to learn about and provide feedback on the data sharing policy for TraCSS to support spaceflight safety and space traffic coordination.

A recording of the listening session and accompanying documents, including presentation materials, may be found on the [listening session webpage](#).

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Sources Sought for TraCSS System Integrator 2.0 - Due Dec. 6

OSC is seeking sources for a system integrator for future iterations of TraCSS, including cloud infrastructure and provisioning services; and is conducting market research in preparation for a contracting action, anticipated in calendar year 2025, to establish the follow on System Integrator effort.

[View Sources Sought notice at SAM.gov](#).

The deadline for response has been extended from November 26 to December 6, 2024.

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Stakeholder Engagements

Space Export Controls - Comments Due December 23

The Office of Space Commerce organized two stakeholder briefings on the four space-related export control rulemakings published by the Departments of State and Commerce on October 23. The first briefing, held November 6 at the Commerce Department, provided an opportunity for industry to learn about the new rules and have questions answered by the regulators. The second event, held November 14 at the Meridian International



Center, provided a similar opportunity to D.C.-based science/space counselors representing 18 allies and partners. State and DOC extended the public comment period for the proposed rules to December 23, 2024. View video recording and learn more at space.commerce.gov/export24

International Standardization Organization (ISO) Fall Working Groups



ISO working groups on space operations and orbital debris in Berlin, Germany

To foster the economic growth and technological advancement of the U.S. commercial space industry, OSC participates in the development and promotion of **space technical standards**. OSC's Dr. Dianne Poster was a member of the U.S. delegation to the ISO Technical Committee 20 (Aircraft and Space Vehicles), Subcommittee 14 (Space Systems and Operations) Working Groups 3 (Space Operations) and 7 (Orbital Debris), held November 19-21, 2024. Specific work focused on standards for:

- Design, testing and operation of a large constellation of spacecraft;
- Space traffic coordination;
- Launch window estimation and collision avoidance;
- Identifying, evaluating, and avoiding collisions between orbiting objects;
- Space debris mitigation requirements;
- Re-entry risk management for unmanned spacecraft and launch vehicle orbital;
- Conjunction data message formats; and
- Terminology harmonization.

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Additional Engagements

In November, OSC's Director Richard DalBello and Mariel Borowitz visited the World Economic Forum's newly launched Saudi Arabia Centre for Space Futures, brainstorming solutions for space sustainability with global partners.



Policy Advisor Christine Joseph spoke at the Space Foundation's Congressional Space Series, discussing TraCSS' critical role in space situational awareness and spaceflight safety.



Policy, Advocacy, and International Division Director Gabriel Swiney gave a keynote address at the CONFERS Global Satellite Servicing Forum & Exhibition, detailing OSC's role in licensing sensors used in rendezvous and proximity operations.

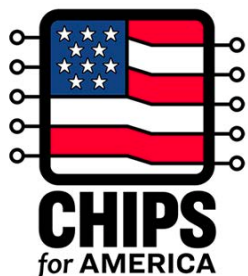
Richard DalBello briefed the National Academies' Space Studies Board on the TraCSS program and the vision for global space traffic coordination.

International Affairs Specialist Rose Croshier joined a virtual Space Generation Advisory Council Africa event to discuss the value of multilateral cooperation to build norms for commercial space activities.

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Across Commerce

Commerce Announces CHIPS Awards Supporting the Space Industry



On November 25, the Department of Commerce [finalized two separate awards](#) under the CHIPS Incentives Program's Funding Opportunity for Commercial Fabrication Facilities. The Department awarded BAE Systems Electronic Systems up to \$35.5 million in direct funding, and awarded Rocket Lab, the parent company of space power provider SolAero Technologies Corp., up to \$23.9 million in direct funding.

Through [the Department's investment](#), BAE Systems Electronic Systems will quadruple its production capacity for Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuit chips, which are critical components for advanced military aircraft and commercial satellite systems. Rocket Lab will create a more robust and resilient supply of space-grade solar cells that power spacecraft and satellites. [The Department's award](#) will support the modernization and expansion of Rocket Lab's facility in Albuquerque, New Mexico, which will increase the company's compound semiconductor production by 50% within the next three years.

OSC is Hiring!

Interested in joining the Office of Space Commerce? Check out the [job announcements page](#) on our website! Current open positions include:

Physical Science Technicians (Space Operations Division - five positions available)

- Grade: ZT-5 (GS-13 equivalent)
- USAJobs link: [UNSEC OSC-24-12527418-DE](#) (General public)
- USAJobs link: [UNSEC OSC-24-12527417-ST](#) (Status candidates)
- Closing date: September 11, 2025

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OSC in the News

- *Breaking Defense*: "[Commerce taps Slingshot to create space tracking user website](#)"
- *SpaceNews*: "[Slingshot selected to design user experience for U.S. space traffic system](#)"
- *SpaceNews*: "[Space export reforms to march forward amid transition to new administration](#)"
- *The Space Review*: "[A step forward in space export control reform](#)"

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Looking Ahead

OSC staff will be featured participants in these upcoming events:

- Dec 4:** [UN World Space Forum](#) - Bonn, Germany
- Dec 10:** [Abu Dhabi Space Debate](#) - Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Dec 10:** [Africa Space Leadership Institute Policy Talks Podcast](#)
- Dec 13:** [Eilene M. Galloway IISL Symposium](#) - Washington, DC

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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](#)