



Space Commerce Highlights

News from OSC

Welcome to the inaugural stakeholder newsletter of the NOAA Office of Space Commerce (OSC).

We're always looking for ways to better engage! Don't hesitate to contact us with your thoughts and ideas at Space.Commerce@NOAA.Gov.

Refer your colleagues to the newsletter! Reach out to subscribe: Cody.Knipfer@NOAA.gov.

From the Director

Colleagues & friends,

Thanks for subscribing to our office's newsletter. I trust it will be a helpful way of communicating useful information, insights, and opportunities between us moving forward. It's one of the many initiatives we're pursuing to more closely collaborate with you as OSC continues to grow and expand. I'm always open to your feedback.

As I'm sure you're well aware, OSC has a ton on its plate right now. We're focused on streamlining our remote sensing licensing procedures, engaging our international partners, advocating for space commerce at home and abroad... and certainly more. We're laser focused on progress for our Traffic Coordination System for Space (also known as TRaCSS). Something that's been top of mind for me lately is a bit more "big picture" - what does the future of global space traffic coordination look like, and what should we do today to ensure it's functional, sustainable, and collaborative? This is a worldwide problem. The success of

TraCSS will be a huge step in the right direction, but the international community needs to align. I see a future where there will be a global federated system of SSA providers... with a series of hubs providing SSA information and services to spacecraft operators. Those will be supported by networks of international partnerships, and their services will be augmented by a robust global commercial SSA sector. As a first step, my office is committed to maintaining an open and transparent system that enables global coordination.

How do we get there? By leading the way in standards and best practices for SSA data and information sharing, and finding opportunities for research and technical engagement with allies and partners. As I grow my team, those efforts are front and center. We can't do it alone, however. We'll need your support, active engagement, and most importantly, your participation. I'll look forward to any and all dialogue with you to drive that forward.





OSC Solicitation on TraCSS Presentation Layer

The Office of Space Commerce has published a request for information (RFI) soliciting input from vendors seeking to develop or provide the user interface and front end for the Traffic Coordination System for Space (TraCSS).

The RFI seeks information on both the development of a fully government owned "TraCSS Presentation Layer," and the potential for acquiring an existing capability. Regardless of acquisition approach, the government desires to maintain an enduring competitive environment for presentation layer vendors.

Responses are due Tuesday, October 31. View the RFI on SAM.gov, [here](#).

OSC is Hiring

OSC Hiring TraCSS General Engineers

OSC has open vacancies for a "Commercial Data Products Lead" and a "Future Capabilities Engineer" for the Traffic Coordination System for Space.

The Commercial Data Products Lead will work within the systems engineering branch to lead a team responsible for 365/24/7 acquisition of operational data and products required for the TraCSS mission.

The Future Capabilities Engineer will work with the Lead Systems Engineer to provide operational requirements, coordinate the onboarding of new capabilities and resolution of problems encountered during operations. Additionally, they will identify and institute new concepts of operations as required, based on policies, technologies, and capabilities.

Both positions will be filled via the same General Engineer posting. The vacancy closes on November 1st and can be found on USAJobs, [here](#).

OSC Hiring TraCSS IT Specialists

OSC has reposted its vacancy announcement for two (2) IT Specialists for the TraCSS program, based in Suitland, MD. GS-13/14 equivalent

Help stand up, develop, manage, & maintain the next-gen platform for managing & sharing SSA data with the public! Based in Suitland, MD. GS-13/14 equivalent. The vacancy closes on November 2nd and can be found on USAJobs, [here](#).

Federal employees and other status candidates should apply using this link, [here](#).

Note: previous applicants must now re-apply to be considered.

Stakeholder Engagements

U.S.-Africa Commercial Space Stakeholders Meeting

On October 1, the Office of Space Commerce, the State Department, and the African Union Commission convened a U.S.-Africa Commercial Space Stakeholders Meeting on the margins of the International Astronautical Congress 2023 - a follow-up to the Space Forum held during the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit in December 2022.

Participants from U.S. and African governments, civil society, and industry met to pursue the shared goal of building multilateral space partnerships and space commerce. Representatives from the space agencies of Kenya, Morocco, South Africa, and Zimbabwe attended, along with NASA and the FAA.



Read more about the event, [here](#).

Dep. Sec. Graves Speaks at The Economist Space Economy Summit

Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves delivered virtual remarks at The Economist's Space Economy Summit, recapping the Department's initiatives and efforts to grow the space economy.

Among other topics, he described how the Department is working to improve space safety and sustainability through its Traffic Coordination System for Space, progress in speeding up and improving remote sensing licensing, dialogues with international partners to expand the U.S. commercial space customer base, and NOAA's innovation efforts in Earth observation to empower better decision making.



View Deputy Secretary Graves' full remarks and video recording, [here](#).

Also at Commerce

On-Ramp Opportunity for NOAA Commercial Data Program

On September 21, NOAA posted a Request for Information (RFI) for the on-ramping of additional vendors to the Radio Occultation Data Buy II (RODB-2) multiple award vendor Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) pool. NOAA is requesting interested vendors to submit a capabilities package in response to this announcement for review of possible market capabilities to perform under its RODB-2 IDIQ award pool.

CDP's RODB-2 requires the continuation of commercially sourced operational Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) radio occultation (RO) data to meet NOAA's operational weather needs for neutral atmosphere and ionosphere data.

Responses are due on Tuesday, October 31. View the RFI on SAM.Gov, [here](#).

Supporting Commercial LEO R&D

On October 10 & 11, OSC, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the National Telecommunication and Information Administration joined federal departments and agencies at a White House workshop to explore opportunities and potentially pivotal programs for collaborative Low Earth Orbit (LEO) research and development. Dr. Dianne Poster (OSC, NIST) provided highlights of the Department of Commerce LEO activities supporting commercial space products and services and space flight safety to, within, and through LEO.



Left to right: Drs. Tara Eskandari, Dianne Poster, Johanna Camara and Solomon Woods (NIST) at the closing ceremony of the White House LEO R&D Workshop, October 11, 2023.

Inputs, thoughts, and ideas to our expert representatives are welcome!

Dr. Dianne Poster: Dianne.Poster@NOAA.Gov

Christine Joseph: Christine.Joseph@NOAA.gov

Looking Ahead

OSC staff and/or DOC leadership will be featured participants in these upcoming public & industry events:

Nov 1-2: Beyond Earth Institute's 2nd Space Symposium (DC)

Nov 6-9: ROK-U.S. Space Week (Seoul)

Nov 30: Forward Research & Innovation Summit - Science & Space Edition (Puerto Rico)

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