

April 2008

24th National Space Symposium

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The 24th National Space Symposium in Colorado Springs, one of the premier annual gatherings of the global space community, came to a successful conclusion with featured remarks by noted astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, Ph.D., at the 20th Space Technology Hall of Fame Dinner. The four-day program brought together more than 7,500 participants to hear prominent speakers from the military, civil and commercial space communities on a wide range of timely issues and to engage in an extensive exhibit center representing more than 140 companies and organizations.

"The Space Report 2008: The Authoritative Guide to Global Space Activity" was released by the Space Foundation at the 24th National Space Symposium. The report revealed more than \$251 billion in global space activity in 2007. This represents a single-year increase of 11% from 2006. *The Space Report 2008* is a publication that thoroughly examines and analyzes the state of the space industry. The keystone product of the Space Foundation's Research and Analysis division, *The Space Report 2008* covers primarily 2007 data, contains information on global space budgets and revenues, a yearly summary and analysis of the Space Foundation Index, and, for the first time, addresses United States labor and workforce issues.

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The program opened on April 8th with speeches by two members of Congress, Sen. Wayne Allard (R-Colo) and Rep. Mark Udall (D-Colo). Both agreed on the importance of space to U.S. interests and the need to increase funding for NASA. Additionally, Allard stressed the need to address threats to national security and develop a specific national space security policy. James Albaugh, Executive Vice President of Boeing expressed concern that the United States currently risks losing its leadership role in space. He stated that the U.S. effort in manned space exploration requires commitment, leadership and innovation. Furthermore, Albaugh called for investment in high-risk, high-payoff technology, something that will require government and industry partnership. Several panels also took place on April 8th that addressed the retirement of the space shuttle and challenges on the road to the Moon and Mars, methods of fostering innovation, and operationally responsive space. Workforce development and the creation of a work environment that enables creativity were two common

themes. Additionally, the importance of including the end user in the design process was stressed.

On April 9th, The Honorable Michael Wynne, secretary of the Air Force urged development and innovation in the space community. He stated that the best way to reduce vulnerability in space systems is to ensure the irrelevance of a single attack, buying time to engage in a coordinated defense. Lt. Gen. Michael Hamel, commander of Air Force Space Command called for a national space policy that puts national security as the top priority, clearly defines and prioritizes goals, while also laying out roadmaps and implementation plans. In effect, a national space strategy is required to ensure that the resources of various government agencies are used in a coordinated fashion. Panels on April 9th addressed the issue of “colliding worlds” in developing a national space policy, evolving solutions for government requirements, and a forum comprised of former NASA Administrators focusing on future NASA endeavors. Speakers also included Mr. Dean Cheng from the CNA corporation who discussed China’s involvement and possible future in space development, as well as Mr. Robert Bednarek, the president and chief executive officer of SES-New Skies. One theme that arose repeatedly was the need for government and the commercial space industry to improve their ability to communicate with each other. The government’s dependence on commercial services is expected to continue well into the future and it is important for everyone at the table to be speaking the same language so that the requirements of each party are properly understood.

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The final day of the 24th National Space Symposium, April 10th, began with a talk by Dr. George Nield, the acting associate administrator for commercial space transportation at the Federal Aviation Administration. He discussed the development of the commercial space industry and how it will evolve based on business decisions, as opposed to NASA, which is driven by goals and funded by taxpayers. Nield does not view NASA’s five year hiatus from human spaceflight as a setback, but a different path of progress. In the latter half of the morning, a panel was held to discuss climate change, space, and the implications for national security. The panelists agreed that it is vital to establish baseline measurements and the capacity for continuous measurement from space so scientists can properly understand climate change and its effect on matters of national security such as the food supply.



SPECIALISTS IN SATELLITE, MEDIA AND TELECOM INVESTMENT BANKING

Several military leaders spoke in the afternoon, including Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, Gen. Victor E. Renuart, Jr., and Lt. Gen. Frank G. Klotz, all of the USAF. They addressed a wide variety of military space requirements, ranging from the needs of the warfighter overseas to the systems that provide defense for the American homeland. Lt. Gen. Klotz raised the possibility of cooperation with allies on national security space issues such as space situational awareness, and he also recommended joint training and exercises to improve interoperability. The sessions concluded with a talk by Brig. Gen. Jeffrey C. Horne, regarding the decision and execution process of the recent engagement with satellite USA-193. Horne emphasized the efforts of the United States government to conduct the shutdown operation in the most open and transparent manner possible, and to do its best to ensure the safety of the general public.

For additional information about a particular session, please see the 24th National Space Symposium Agenda which includes links to more extensive summaries than the ones above.
[\(<http://www.nationalspacesymposium.org/agenda>\)](http://www.nationalspacesymposium.org/agenda)

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