



## **SpaceOps Update**

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### ***Call for 2008 Nominations***

Nominations for the 2008 International SpaceOps Award for Outstanding Achievement and the 2008 International SpaceOps Distinguished Service Medal are currently being accepted. Nominations must be submitted to the SpaceOps Secretariat no later than **1 February 2008**.

#### *International SpaceOps Award for Outstanding Achievement*

This award is presented for outstanding efforts in overcoming space operations and/or support challenges, and recognizes those teams or individuals whose exceptional contributions were critical to the success of a space mission.

#### *International Space Ops Distinguished Service Medal*

This award is presented to give unique recognition to an individual member of the international Space Operations community who has distinguished himself or herself with service to the Space Ops organization or to the field of space operations and support. The recipient shall be an individual who has shown particular dedication to the interests of the organization or space ops field by making significant and continuing contributions over an extended period of time.

Opportunities for Interchange and Publishing

### ***Space Operations Communicator***



As member of the space operations community, you are invited to access this online publication. The *Space Operations Communicator* is an online peer-reviewed journal published jointly by the AIAA Space Operations and Support Technical Committee and the Space Operations Organization.

### ***Journal Editors Needed***

As the only peer-reviewed, technical journal dedicated to space operations, the *Space Operations Communicator* uniquely fulfills a need that has resulted in its rapid growth. As the publication begins its fourth year, that growth requires the expansion of its staff. The journal is seeking to fill two editorial positions: **Editor for Asian Space Operations** and **Editor for European Space Operations**. These persons will serve as the primary points of contact for the Communicator within each continent and should therefore be residents. For the time being the SpaceOps News Editor will serve as the Editor for European Space Operations ([joachimkehr@opsjournal.org](mailto:joachimkehr@opsjournal.org)).

Each editor will face challenges for his or her home region including the formulation of strategies for increasing submissions to the journal and coordinating those submissions, beginning with assigning the appropriate referee through final acceptance leading to publication. These volunteers will be joining a team dedicated to a global communications network for space operations professionals. Those interested in accepting this challenge should contact Paul Douglas, Editor-in-Chief at [JPaulDouglas@opsjournal.org](mailto:JPaulDouglas@opsjournal.org).

The *Communicator* is published quarterly in January, April, July and October of each year and is intended to serve as a forum for practitioners and researchers to exchange ideas and results for the advancement of space operations. In addition, opinion pieces and book reviews are also welcome.

A central theme of this journal is the technology and methods of space operations. The journal publishes papers in original research and surveys in the areas of new technology, technology trends, operations procedures and practices, human factors, the space environment, standards, space policy/law, communications, manufacturing and latest findings.

The *Communicator* is seeking submissions on all topics of space flight operations and ground support systems. For submission instructions, visit the *Communicator* web site and select the **Author Help** link.

### **Upcoming Events for Space Operators**

*SpaceOps encourages the space operations community to participate in the events listed below. Take part in the discussion of the current and future state of space operations at these exciting fora!*

## ***Space 2007***

18-20 September 2007  
Long Beach, California

Registration is now open for the SPACE 2007 Conference in Long Beach, CA 18-20 September 2007. Discussions over the three-day event will highlight the numerous advances in space technologies and applications over the past half-century, and the obstacles that must be overcome for us to be successful as we look toward the next 50 years. The preliminary program is also available on the event web site.

Make plans to join top industry professionals at SPACE 2007—Register NOW!

*Space 2007 is co-chaired by The Boeing Company, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and the U.S. Air Force Space & Missiles Center. The event is being organized by AIAA.*

## ***58th International Astronautical Congress***

24-28 September 2007  
Hyderabad, India

The Astronautical Society of India (ASI) along with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is honored to host International Astronautical Congress (IAC) for the second time in India. Centrally located and easily reachable by air from major world and Indian cities, Hyderabad is a major center for space, bio- and information technology.

The theme of the Congress is "Touching Humanity: Space for Improving Quality of Life. More than 2000 space professionals, journalists, and students engaged in space activities all over the world will participate in this Congress.

Approximately 1,200 technical papers will be presented on a wide variety of space program activities. The program is categorized into the following major themes: Space Science, Space Technology, Infrastructure, Space Applications, and Interaction with Society.

A series of plenary events are also being planned as part of the IAC 2007 program. The chiefs of space agencies will be participating and sharing their views on current development and future plans. Highlight lectures will be held during the evenings of Congress days on topics of interest to the global space community and relevant to the Congress theme. These lectures are open to all the registered participants of IAC 2007 and the general public. The plenary and highlight lecture topics and details will appear in the second announcement to be made available in June 2007.

## ***Join the SpaceOps 2008 Mailing List***

To be added to the mailing list for **SpaceOps 2008**, please email [spaceops@aiaa.org](mailto:spaceops@aiaa.org). You will receive information about the call for papers, program, special events, and other exciting opportunities to participate.

Please forward this information to your colleagues and co-workers so that they too can stay on top of what is happening in space operations!

## **Standardization Activities**

Exciting work on the next generation of in-space data transfer protocols continues to be done within the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS). This work is supported by space communications experts from more than 25 countries representing all of the major space agencies of the world. The overarching goal of CCSDS continues to be to enhance governmental and commercial interoperability and cross-support, while also reducing risk, development time, and project costs. Many of the current projects of the CCSDS working groups will contribute directly to the success of future space exploration missions around the world.

The potential for water ice at the Moon's poles and evidence of a history of water on Mars has prompted increased interest in executing an expanded program of human and robotic exploration missions to the Moon and Mars. A unified data communications architecture and protocol suite is needed to support these new missions, with Lunar infrastructure being forward-compatible to Mars; this will increase opportunities for cross-support and reduce costs.

The Cislunar Space Internetworking (CSI) working group was chartered to produce an architecture for communications at lunar mission distances, considering current and evolving communications capabilities. With the expected increased number of spacecraft on the lunar surface and in orbit a networked communications architecture will be necessary for efficient transfer of data to the Earth.

Within the Mars Communications Profile group, space communications experts are working to define the future data relay infrastructure for use on and around Mars. This work will result in increased interoperability among international space agencies operating orbiters and ground-based assets at the red planet. The complexity of the task is increased by the need to account for legacy systems while defining a scalable architecture that will grow with the state-of-the art.

CCSDS is always encouraging greater participation from space communications experts from government, industry, and academia around the world. To learn more about the many projects currently in work, or to download CCSDS specifications and standards (free of charge) please visit the CCSDS web site <http://www.ccsds.org>. For any questions on how to get involved, please contact

[secretariat@mailman.ccsds.org](mailto:secretariat@mailman.ccsds.org).

## **VEGA Joins SpaceOps**



At its April 2007 meeting, the Executive Committee of the SpaceOps Organization accepted VEGA as an industrial member of the Committee-at-Large.

Founded 1978, VEGA is an independent consulting, technology and managed solutions company that specialises in program and system assurance. VEGA's market sectors include aerospace, defense, and government and its business streams include consulting, technology, and managed solutions. Its space capabilities are comprised of spacecraft operations, ground segment development, systems engineering and procurement, and simulation and modelling.

VEGA is a global organization in that it has companies in the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and Spain with other operations in Holland, Italy and United States and clients worldwide.

The SpaceOps Organization welcomes VEGA to its membership.

### **Join the SpaceOps Organization**

As the space operations community grows, we encourage your organization to join the SpaceOps Organization. The SpaceOps Organization has recently created a new membership category for industrial members and other interested organizations.

Participation in SpaceOps as a [Partner](#) or a [Member](#) will bring you close association with the agencies and partner organizations focusing on space operations, allow you to help determine the content of the biennial conferences, and help shape the future of the community.

For more information please download the [Policy for SpaceOps Partners](#) or download the [Policy for SpaceOps Committee-at-Large Members](#).

Please forward this information to your colleagues and co-workers so that they too can stay on top of what is happening in space operations!

**To be added to the SpaceOps mailing list or for more information about becoming a Partner or a Member of the SpaceOps Organization, please email the SpaceOps Secretariat at [spaceops@aiaa.org](mailto:spaceops@aiaa.org). There are no fees or**

**obligations.**

[Visit the SpaceOps Web Site](#)