



COMMERCIAL SPACEFLIGHT FEDERATION

August Newsletter

WELCOME

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to the Commercial Spaceflight Federation (CSF) Newsletter. The goal of this newsletter is to inform and educate our partners across the federal government about the policy priorities, accomplishments, and developments of our member organizations and the broader commercial space industry.

This monthly newsletter contains a wide range of information from across the industry and includes the following sections:

- [*Find CSF Members in Your State*](#): Pinpoints the location of CSF member organizations on an interactive map
- [*Member Spotlight*](#): Highlights a different CSF member each month and contains valuable insights into their latest projects
- [*Policy Highlight*](#): Offers a snapshot of policy issues each month that are top of mind for CSF and our member organizations
- [*CSF Updates*](#): Provides updates on CSF activities, such as new additions to our membership and CSF staff participation in recent events and conferences

- [Recent Industry News](#): Features the biggest accomplishments and breaking news stories from across our membership
- [Resources](#): Connects you with the top sources for news and information on the commercial space sector

We hope that this newsletter provides you with a window into our exciting and dynamic industry. Please feel free to reach out to CSF with questions or comments at sirisha@commercialspaceflight.org and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Sincerely,

Michael Lopez-Alegria
President

ABOUT US

The [Commercial Spaceflight Federation](#) (CSF) is the industry organization of leading businesses and organizations working to make commercial human spaceflight a reality. Our mission is to promote the development of commercial human spaceflight, pursue ever higher levels of safety, and share best practices and expertise throughout the industry.

Currently, [50 businesses and organizations](#) are CSF members. Executive Members include commercial spaceflight developers, operators, and spaceports. Associate Members include suppliers supporting commercial spaceflight, with recent members including suppliers of mission support services and suppliers of training, medical, and life-support products and services.

FIND CSF MEMBERS IN YOUR STATE



CSF [member organizations](#) and CSF [research and education mission \(REM\) affiliates](#) span from coast to coast. Click [here](#) for an interactive map of the commercial space organizations in your state!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Penn State Lunar Lion Team

In 2011, Penn State's Lunar Lion team entered the Google Lunar XPRIZE challenge. It is competing with teams around the world to become the first privately-funded group to land a spacecraft on the Moon. The team has grown to more than 100 students from a broad array of academic disciplines, working alongside faculty and staff at the University and with industry professionals.



To complete its mission, the Lunar Lion team must design and build a lander to make the five-day voyage to the Moon. After landing on the lunar surface, it will send back images, videos, and tweets before hopping 500 meters and transmitting again. These initial transmissions will be followed by a month-long mission that will include an imaging operation to return pictures and video to be shared around the world. Once the team completes its mission, the world will see that space is more accessible than ever, reinvigorating the space industry and encouraging students to enter into the field.

Lunar Lion is a student-led effort providing a unique opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience on a real space mission. Students participate in every aspect of the mission, building and testing the lander that will go the Moon. Having worked on a lunar mission before finishing their undergraduate careers, these students are becoming leaders in the developing commercial space industry. With their first-hand knowledge of what a low-cost space mission entails, they will change the way future generations think about space exploration.



For more information on the Penn State Lunar Lion team, check out their [website](#) and their [crowdfunding page](#).

POLICY HIGHLIGHT

CSF and its member organizations are actively engaged in a number of policy arenas to advance U.S. commercial spaceflight leadership. The monthly "Policy Highlight" will feature a particular policy issue that is top of mind for CSF's members and staff. This month's topic is the regulatory "learning period," which prevents uninformed regulation of commercial human spaceflight in the industry's early days.

The Learning Period

The original [Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act \(CSLAA\) of 2004](#) included a "learning period" provision that granted the commercial space industry an eight-year window to conduct test flights and early commercial operations of new human spaceflight vehicles without onerous regulations that were not based on actual flight data. The intent was to facilitate the development of the industry as well as the collection of operational data that would subsequently allow the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to craft appropriate, evidence-based safety regulations at the conclusion of eight years of early flight experience.

However, because the industry did not rush vehicles into service, no actual commercial flights took place before the initial learning period expired in December 2012. As a result, Congress extended the learning period in February 2012 for almost three additional years (to October 1, 2015) as part of a multi-year [FAA Reauthorization](#).

The impending expiration of the extended learning period next year, coupled with the lack of data required for proper regulation, makes a further extension a top priority for the industry. CSF and its member organizations regularly engage with Congress, the FAA, and the broader commercial space community to both extend this period of limited regulation and seek a better, more permanent regime. For more information on this CSF policy priority, please contact us at sirisha@commercialspaceflight.org and check the [CSF website](#) for press releases and updates on this and other relevant policy topics.

CSF UPDATES

CSF Staff Comment on Industry-Wide Issues in [Valley Morning Star](#) and [Space Politics](#).

Commercial Spaceflight Federation Welcomes New Associate Members. BRPH, The Robert A. & Virginia Heinlein Prize Trust, and Swiss Space Systems USA Holdings have each [joined as Associate Members](#).

CSF Media Specialist Kellie Gerardi Presented at SXSW V2V. The realities of the commercial space sector were presented by Kellie at SXSW V2V, a four day event that brings startup and venture capital communities together. A re-recording of her talk can be found [here](#).

CSF Leadership Participates in the NewSpace 2014 Conference. CSF President Michael Lopez-Alegria and CSF Senior Advisor Alex Saltman spoke about the commercial space sector and opportunities for future public-private partnerships as panelists at [NewSpace 2014](#). Additionally, CSF hosted a successful Space Investors Workshop at

the conference in partnership with the Space Frontier Foundation and the Space Angels Network.

Eric Stallmer Named President of the Commercial Spaceflight Federation. The CSF is pleased to announce that [Eric Stallmer has been named as its next President](#). Stallmer will join CSF staff in September and will assume the position of President following the departure of Michael Lopez-Alegria.

CSF Moves to New Location. As of July 28, 2014, the Commercial Spaceflight Federation office is located at [500 New Jersey Avenue NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20001](#). You can reach us via phone at 202-715-2928.

RECENT INDUSTRY NEWS

June 24 - [Planetary Resources](#) and Zooniverse launched [Asteroid Zoo](#), empowering students, citizen scientists, and space enthusiasts to aid in the search for previously undiscovered asteroids.

June 24 - [World View](#) successfully [completed a scaled test flight](#) of its high-altitude balloon spaceflight system in which the 10 percent scaled system was lifted 118,000 feet to the edge of space and then descended to 50,000 feet where the transition to parafoil was successfully completed.

July 9 - [Bigelow Aerospace](#) hired former NASA astronauts Kenneth Ham and George Zamka to form the cornerstone of the [private astronaut corps](#) the company will need to maintain and operate the inflatable space habitats it plans to launch some time after 2017.

July 9 - [Virgin Galactic's](#) WhiteKnightTwo completed its [150th flight](#) with the very first crew made up of exclusively Virgin Galactic employees.

July 14 - [SpaceX's](#) Falcon 9 rocket launched six commercial satellites into low-Earth orbit for [Orbcomm](#), a machine-to-machine (M2M) data relay company headquartered in Rochelle Park, NJ. All [six satellites deployed into their target orbits](#) successfully, and the rocket's first stage performed a "soft landing" in the Atlantic Ocean as seen in this [video](#).

July 16 - DARPA commissioned three companies to design a [next-generation space plane](#) in an effort to find reusable, affordable space launch systems for the government. The companies selected to design this futuristic plane are partnerships between space giants and start-ups. They include Boeing with [Blue Origin](#), Northrop Grumman with [Virgin Galactic](#), and [Masten Space Systems](#) with [XCOR Aerospace](#).

July 16 - Space Adventures, Ltd., a company that provides human space missions to the world marketplace, announced a [partnership with entrepreneur Satoshi Takamatsu](#) to market Space Adventures' diverse range of experiences in Japan.

July 22 - Students taking the [Zero-Gravity Flight Experiment course at Purdue University](#) will see their creation soar to the upper atmosphere to study a new green propellant, partnering with [Aerojet Rocketdyne](#) to demonstrate that the propellant can replace the traditional but highly toxic hydrazine fuel.

July 23 - [Sierra Nevada](#) announced a [recently signed memorandum](#) of cooperative understanding with the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).

July 24 - [Virgin Galactic](#) announced that Todd 'Leif' Ericson, former Operations and Maintenance Group Commander for the United States Air Force, [joined the company's cadre of space pilots](#).

July 30 - [Spaceflight Inc.](#) announced it is [expanding its services to include Spaceflight Networks](#), a business dedicated to cost-effective spacecraft communications and operations for small-satellite customers.

August 4 - [SpaceX](#) and the state of Texas announced that the company will [build a new spaceport](#) near Brownsville.

August 5 - [SpaceX](#)'s Falcon 9 rocket successfully [launched the AsiaSat 8](#) commercial telecommunications satellite into geostationary transfer orbit.

RESOURCES

Consult the following resources for the most up-to-date news and information about the commercial space industry!

Commercial Spaceflight Federation

Visit the [Commercial Spaceflight Federation homepage](#) for the most recent press releases and news stories featuring CSF member organizations.

Spaceflight Now Launch Tracker

Check out the [Spaceflight Now Launch Tracker](#) for the most up-to-date schedule of U.S. government, commercial, and foreign space launches.

SpacePolicyOnline.com

Go to [SpacePolicyOnline](#) for recent news and analysis as well as a comprehensive list of space-related hearings, briefings, and events in the Washington, DC area.

NASA Procurement Information

Consult the [NASA procurement page](#) for a breakdown of NASA spending by state and Congressional district; details include information about SBIR awards, grants, and contracts with universities and businesses.

FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation (AST)

Head to the [FAA AST website](#) to view launch licenses and procedures as well as relevant legislation governing commercial space.



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Commercial Spaceflight Federation
500 New Jersey Avenue NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 715-2928

www.commercialspaceflight.org