

SPACE OPERATIONS SYMPOSIUM (B6)
New Operations Concepts and Commercial Space Operations (2)

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CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF COMMERCIAL SPACE OPERATIONS
IN THE GLOBAL AIRSPACE SYSTEM**Abstract**

The Federal Aviation Administration is developing a draft concept of operations for protecting air traffic from the hazards associated with space launch and reentry operations. These hazards include the potential for space vehicle debris, generated by an in-flight failure of a launch or reentry vehicle, to fall through the airspace and impact aircraft in flight. Using the reentries of the NASA Space Shuttle as an operational test-bed, the FAA has identified requirements and developed tools to support a responsive approach to airspace management around space operations that maximizes safety while minimizing impacts to airspace system efficiency and capacity. This paper introduces the FAA's proposed concept of operations for safely and efficiently integrating space vehicle operations into domestic airspace to an international audience. Advantages of extending such a concept of operations globally are also identified and discussed.