

SPACE DEBRIS SYMPOSIUM (A6)  
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LESSONS FOR IMPROVED INTERNATIONAL SPACE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS (SSA) FROM  
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS (MDA)

**Abstract**

In a paper presented at the 2012 International Astronautical Congress in Naples, Italy, authors Kate Becker and Tiffany Chow examined ways that Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) solutions might inform space situational awareness (SSA). Specifically, the paper addressed how the international mechanism for MDA, the Maritime Safety and Security Information System, might offer lessons for greater international SSA data sharing.

Building off of that work, this paper continues the attempt to extrapolate lessons learned from the field of MDA and apply them to improved international SSA. It highlights the most recent developments in MDA, specifically efforts to improve international collaboration and progress made toward using space-based Automatic Identification System (Satellite-AIS). The National Space Policy and efforts such as "Collaboration in Space for International Global Maritime Awareness" (C-SIGMA) demonstrate that efforts are underway to increase MDA capabilities through use of Satellite-AIS, often seeking increased international collaboration in space as well as in maritime operations. The valuable progress made and lessons learned in this area should not go unnoticed by those working to enhance global SSA capabilities. This paper looks for ways these developments in MDA might relate to improving international SSA.