

SPACE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS (D2)
Commercial Human Spaceflight Safety (9)

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ORBITAL'S VISION FOR SAFETY IN HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT

Abstract

Since 1982, Orbital Sciences Corporation has developed innovative and cost effective launch, spacecraft, and mission systems. During this period Orbital has been involved in several human spaceflight programs and studies, including Hubble Servicing Missions manifesting and tools design, development of the Orion Launch Abort System (LAS), the Commercial Orbital Transportation System (COTS) and the follow-on Commercial Resupply System (CRS) contract, participation in the Crew Return Vehicle and Orbital Space Plane programs, and the Concept Exploration and Refinement architecture study.

Working with NASA's Johnson Space Center, Orbital has taken a cooperative approach to meeting human rating requirements on the COTS / CRS missions via the NASA Safety Review Panel process. This process has proven to be a robust mechanism for passing NASA's experience in human spaceflight safety to the Orbital team. Orbital expects that future projects will continue to benefit from the existing human rating process as implemented in the Safety Review Panel, as well as through participation in imminent Human Rating Requirement efforts led by NASA Headquarters.