



Operationally Responsive Space

Assured Space Power Focused on the Timely Satisfaction of the
Joint Force Commander's Needs

A Note from the Trail...

It's been a little over a week since I was appointed as the Director of the Operationally Responsive Space Office at Kirtland AFB. I packed my bags in Colorado Springs a little over two weeks ago and I haven't really unpacked them yet in New Mexico. I spent my first day on the job at the Responsive Space-6 Conference in LA. There was a great display of support for ORS from across the government, industry, and academia. What a great way to start a new job!

Initial Perspective—great collaboration!

I have been impressed with several things I've seen in the ORS Office. One of the most important is the level of collaboration that exists inside and outside of the ORS office. For example, in the office there are currently representatives from Army, Navy, Air Force, NASA, NSA, and NRO. There is tremendous SETA contractor support in the office and we have recently initiated an FFRDC/UARC Consortium that allows us to reach out to in-depth technical expertise from across the country. AFSPC/SMC has been a great host both locally at the Space Development and Test Wing and by providing reach-back to SMC at LAAFB.

Industry showed great support through participation in the Broad Agency Announcement published last month. We have partners from nearly 20 government groups helping us evaluate more than 200 proposals received.

Issue 1: 13 May 2008



One week in the saddle.

JumpStart Mission

The ORS Office will launch a payload on Space-X's Falcon 1 from Reagan Test Site in late June. The rocket will carry one of three potential payloads to orbit-- the AFRL PnP Sat Bus Experiment, the CUSat formation flying nanosatellite experiment, or SpaceDev's modular, COTS-based Trailblazer spacecraft. The mission, named Jump-Start, will mature rapid call up-to-launch processes and low-cost bus technologies.

But a lot of work to do...

The ORS Office has a tremendous amount of work to accomplish. ORS is truly in the crawl stage of a crawl-walk-run strategy and ORS is experiencing pains from growing. We are working on three urgent needs at the direction of CDR USSTRATCOM; UHF Comm, Space Situational Awareness, and ISR. The UHF Urgent Need has been completed and recommended solutions implemented. We are in the completion phase of the SSA urgent need and are coordinating the way-ahead with the key stakeholders. The ISR urgent need is stretching our processes and partnerships, but we are on track to provide a recommended solution to senior decision makers within 45 days of receipt; far from our ultimate goal, but a good crawl-phase milestone. I'm proud of the innovative solutions the ORS Office has developed. The approaches have been simple, low-cost solutions that leverage existing capabilities in new and creative ways that would not have been thought of with-





Space-X Falcon 1 at
Kwajalein Atoll

new and creative ways that would not have been thought of without coordination from across the space enterprise.

This process has highlighted that we are still a long-way away from being able to develop and launch a new space capability to meet JFC's needs in less than 12 months and for less than \$60M . The ORS Office has a lot of work to do to develop and execute a clear, effective investment strategy to enable the ORS vision described in STRATCOM's ORS CONOPS, but we are working very hard on it, every day...

Very Respectfully,
Peter Wegner

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