



Commercial Space Stations in LEO: Preparing for the Future

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Speaker Biographies

Mr. Charles Miller: President, NextGen Space, LLC

Charles Miller is the President of NexGen Space LLC, which provides client-based services at the intersection of commercial, civil, and national security space, and public policy. His satisfied clients include NASA, DARPA, the U.S. Air Force and many private commercial space firms. He also serves as a senior advisor for Renaissance Strategic Advisors, as the Executive Coordinator of the Alliance for Space Development, and teaches an online course on commercial space executive leadership at HeatSpring.

Mr. Miller is a national leader in the conceptualization of commercial space stations and their applications. Miller is co-founder of Nanoracks LLC, a disruptive venture that has delivered more than 250 customer payloads to the International Space Station (ISS). He is the co-founder and former CEO of Constellation Services International, Inc. (CSI), which developed many space station commercial business concepts, and was a leading competitor for commercial ISS cargo delivery in the early 2000s. Miller also served as NASA Senior Advisor for Commercial Space where he advised senior NASA leaders on various topics, including stimulating the development of commercial markets in low Earth orbit.

Miller recently led a study funded by NASA on how America might return humans to the surface of the Moon within 5-7 years, within NASA's existing budget, by leveraging commercial partnerships.

Mr. Mike Gold: Director, DC Operations and Business Growth, Bigelow Aerospace

Mike Gold is Bigelow Aerospace's Director of D.C. Operations & Business Growth. Mr. Gold is responsible for a broad array of activities at Bigelow Aerospace including international business development, legal issues, Congressional affairs, and strategic planning.

In 2008, Mr. Gold was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to serve on the Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee ("COMSTAC"), and was appointed to serve as Chair of the organization in 2012. The COMSTAC is a federal advisory committee comprised of leading commercial space industry executives that provides advice to the FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation. Additionally, Mr. Gold was appointed by the National Research Council to serve on the Space Technology Industry-Government-University roundtable which provides direction and advice to NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate.

Mr. Gold has written three law review articles describing the intersection between the commercial space industry and export controls, has had two editorials entered into the Congressional Record, and testified before the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee to address issues related to commercial space development.

Ms. Carissa Christensen: Managing Partner, The Tauri Group

Carissa Christensen is an internationally-known expert on the space industry and technology forecasting. She led the creation of widely-used data tools now considered global metrics for the commercial space and satellite sectors. She is a frequent speaker and author on space and satellite trends, serves as a strategic advisor to government and commercial clients, and has been an expert witness and testified before Congress on market dynamics.

Ms. Christensen is a Managing Partner of The Tauri Group, an analytic consulting firm serving science and technology clients that she cofounded in 2001. Tauri serves NASA, the FAA, Department of Defense agencies and services, the Department of Homeland Security, as well as space and defense firms. She was a partner in CenTauri Solutions, a Tauri spin-out, sold to CSC in 2010.

She is an active investor in technology-focused startups and advises several companies she has helped seed. She chairs the Board of QXBranch, an early stage quantum computing firm.

Carissa holds a Master of Public Policy degree from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, where she specialized in science and technology policy. She also completed the General Course in Government at the London School of Economics, and was a Douglass Scholar at Rutgers University. She is an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Mr. Steph Earle: Office of Commercial Spaceflight, Federal Aviation Administration

Stephen Earle, Lieutenant Colonel (retired), is originally from Pittsfield, MA, and is a 1989 Air Force Academy graduate with a degree in electrical engineering. He is a Distinguished Graduate from Undergraduate Space and Missile Training and served as a Missile Combat Crew Commander for the Minuteman ICBM. While serving in missile operations, Stephen earned a M.S. in space operation from the University of North Dakota. At Cape Cod Air Station he performed space surveillance and tracked ballistic missiles, space launches, and all low and mid Earth-orbiting satellites at a space surveillance phased-array radar facility. At Cape Canaveral Air Station, he served as the lead Air Force launch controller for numerous rocket launches to include missions to Mars and a Global Positioning Satellite. He launched a satellite to bring MTV to Russia as well as the Deep Space probe gathering comet dust for return to Earth. He also served as the Executive Officer for the 45th Operations Group.

Stephen worked space surveillance issues at Air Force Space Command Headquarters and led the efforts to upgrade the surveillance network and add new sensors with revolutionary capabilities. He was hand-picked to be in the first class of senior Air Force officers to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology and obtained a M.S. in technology management. Stephen's last active duty assignment was as Chief of the Space Policy Branch on the Joint Staff where he worked countless national level space issues including national strategies, policies, and issues.

Stephen currently works space traffic management and orbital debris issues in AST-100. He is responsible for overseeing a variety of activities to promote and ensure orbital safety. Stephen is a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and a credentialed Project Manager Professional.