National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Commercial Crew Program (CCP)

NASA OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT | VIGNETTE

Who/Where

The Commercial Crew Program (CCP) is a multi-Center program primarily based at Kennedy Space Center (KSC) in Florida, with employees also at Johnson Space Center in Texas and Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama. KSC awarded and administers the Commercial Crew Transportation Capability (CCtCap) contracts with SpaceX and The Boeing Company.

What

CCP was formed to facilitate development of a U.S. commercial crew space transportation capability with the goal of achieving safe, reliable, and cost-effective access to and from the International Space Station (ISS) and low-Earth orbit. CCP focused on leveraging and expanding commercial capability via a series of acquisition tools and techniques that reflected commercial partnership.

CCP leveraged competition among U.S. aerospace industry partners during several phases of design, development, demonstration, and certification of crew transportation system (CTS). NASA's fixed investment is based on pay-for-performance milestones, requiring private capital investment. NASA applies critical safety checks and balances to verify that the commercial providers' CTS demonstrates compliance with NASA's transportation requirements. Once the CTS is certified by NASA, the commercial providers' CTS fly NASA and NASA-sponsored crewmembers to the ISS.

When

In 2012, the Commercial Crew Integrated Capability (CCiCap) initiative began. 2013 and 2014 brought award of Certification Products Contracts (CPC) and the CCtCap contracts. In November 2020, NASA certified SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft and Falcon 9 launch vehicle for ISS crew rotation missions and emergency return obligations. CCP continues to provide insight to, and oversight approval of, Boeing's Starliner spacecraft that will be launched on an Atlas V launch vehicle through demonstration and certification.

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How

$9.5 billion

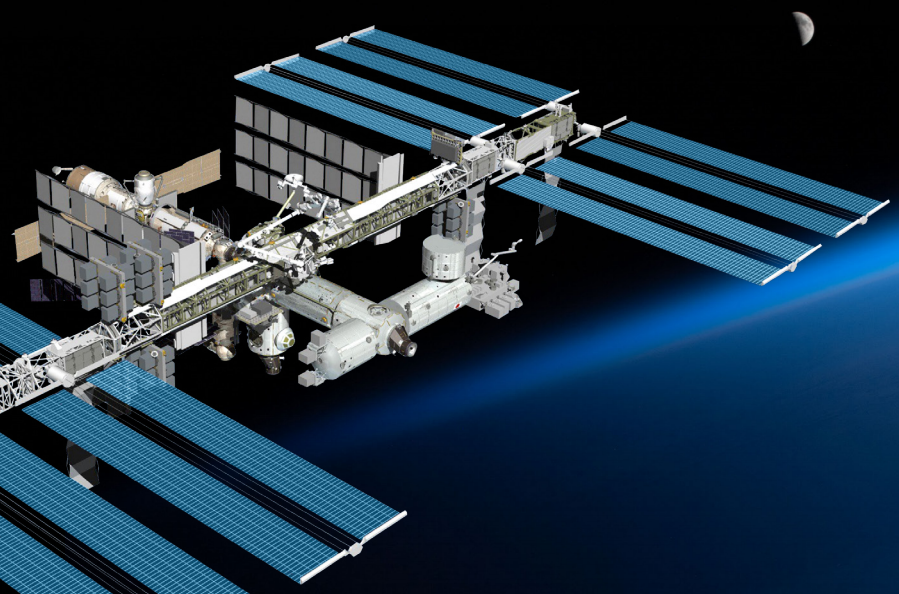
NASA has awarded more than $9.5 billion in Space Act Agreements (SAAs) and contracts.

SAAs:

SAAs are Other Transaction Authority specified in the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 that empowers NASA to work with any entity that enables fulfillment of NASA's mandate. NASA relied on its commercial partners to propose specifics, ranging from the design and capabilities to private investment ratio, milestone achievements, success criteria and timelines. CCP and its expert teams worked closely with each company to provide technical support and verify completion of major milestones.

Contracts:

Concurrently with SAAs, NASA established safety and mission requirements for missions to the ISS. During development efforts, companies could choose to design their systems to meet NASA's pre-determined requirements. To support the certification of these systems, NASA awarded CPC and CCtCap contracts, implementing Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) requirements but including contract terms that were more reflective of commercial practices consistent with NASA performance requirements.



Why

CCP has invested in multiple American companies that are designing and developing transportation capabilities to and from low-Earth orbit and the ISS, laying the foundation for future commercial transportation capabilities beyond low Earth orbit. Ultimately, the goal is to establish safe, reliable and cost-effective access to space.

Through CCP, NASA demonstrated that companies can develop and operate the next generation of spacecraft and launch systems to serve the ISS. This success brought the commercial launch industry back to the United States and fuels the growing U.S. share of the global launch market and provides expanded utility, additional research time, and broader opportunities for discovery and space exploration.

Additional information on Commercial Crew Program can be found at **https://www.nasa.gov/exploration/commercial/crew/index.html**.

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