

## 2026 Space Contracting Executive Forum

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| 8:30am-9:00am   | <b>Check-In</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 9:00am-9:05am   | <b>Welcome: Ms. Sara Lawlyes, Director of Contracting, Space Systems Command</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9:05am-9:45am   | <p><b>Speaker – Mr. Jens Norgaard, Director of Contract, Lockheed Martin Space</b></p> <p><b>Topic: Reimagining the Space Industrial Base: Commercial Scale, Private Capital, and the Future of Defense Space Acquisition</b></p> <p>The defense space enterprise is undergoing a fundamental transformation. As the industry shifts from exquisite, bespoke satellite architectures to proliferated, commercially driven constellations, new competitors, private capital, and non-traditional business models are reshaping how capability is developed and delivered. This discussion will explore how established defense companies are adapting to an increasingly dynamic marketplace, the growing role of venture and private investment in accelerating capability delivery, and what these changes mean for the future of the space industrial base.</p> |
| 9:45am-10:30am  | <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #1 – Mrs. Erin Hammons, VP of USG Strategy from Apex</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #2 – Mr. Gary Li, Director of National Security Space from Impulse Space</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #3 – Mr. Pieter Kranenburg, Head of National Security Programs from K2 Space</b></p> <p><b>Topic: Beyond the Valley of Death: Scaling Space Start-Ups into Operational Capabilities</b></p> <p>The future of space capabilities depends on the ability to rapidly identify, fund, acquire, and scale innovative technologies. This panel will examine what it takes for emerging space companies to successfully navigate government acquisition process, attract investment, build strategic partnerships, and successfully deliver capabilities to the warfighter.</p>                                                                       |
| 10:30am-10:45am | <b>Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 10:45am-11:30pm | <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Mike Brown - Former DIU Director + SHIELD CAPITAL   Partner</b></p> <p><b>Mr. David Rothzeid - Lead for SHIELD Space Efforts</b></p> <p><b>Topic: Cultivating a "Builder" Culture in Government Acquisitions</b></p> <p>This conversation will explore how the Department can accelerate the adoption of commercial technology, empower acquisition professionals to make risk-based decisions, and transform acquisition processes to deliver capability at the speed demanded by today's threat environment.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11:30am-12:45pm | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 12:45pm-1:15pm  | <p><b>Speaker: Mr. Dave Sharp, Golden Dome COCO</b></p> <p><b>Topic: Breaking the Timeline: How SSC Accelerated Golden Dome to Deliver at Speed</b></p> <p>In this case study discussion, Mr. Dave Sharp will share lessons learned from rapidly executing multiple OTAs, engaging industry at scale, and balancing speed, competition, and mission outcomes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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| 1:15pm-2:00pm   | <p><b>Pillar Alignment: Pillar #3 - Maximize Acquisition Flexibility Through Reduced Regulations &amp; Processes</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #1 – Mr. Harvey Singh, Deputy Chief of Contracts, Space Sensing, Space Systems Command</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #2 – Mr. Nathaniel Searing, Acquisition Support Lead, AF Installation Contracting Center</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #3 – Mrs. Ashley Irrizarry, Chief of Contracts, OTTI, Space Systems Command</b></p> <p><b>Topic: Tooling for Speed: How USSF Acquisition Professionals are Contracting at the Speed of Relevance</b></p> <p>This panel explores the tactical execution of how the Space acquisition workforce is maximizing flexible contracting pathways to drastically reduce cycle times. This discussion will dissect the decision-making matrix behind choosing the right acquisition tool, identify where legacy compliance behaviors continue to introduce friction, and highlight the operational traits of companies that successfully match current demand for rapid capability delivery.</p> |
| 2:00pm-2:10pm   | <b>Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2:10pm – 3:25pm | <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #1 – Brig Gen (s) Eric Zarybnisky (Acting PAE, Space Access)</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #2 – Ms. Erin Carper (Acting PAE, Satellite Communications and Positioning, Navigation, &amp; Timing)</b></p> <p><b>Panelist #3 – Col Richard Beckman (PAE, Infrastructure)</b></p> <p><b>Topic: Speed to What End? Architecting Rapid Acquisitions for Long-Term Sustainment</b></p> <p>While rapid acquisition tools accelerate initial capability delivery, true execution excellence demands contracting for long-term sustainment, open architectures, and enterprise integration from the beginning. This PAE discussion challenges the acquisition workforce to look beyond the speed of initial award and structure contracts that ensure innovative prototypes scale into enduring warfighting systems.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3:25pm-3:30pm   | <b>Closing Remarks:</b> Ms. Sara Lawlyes Director of Contracting, Space Systems Command                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 3:30pm-5:00pm   | <b>Social at the BR-DGE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |