



Space Development Division

Mission Statement

Provide spaceflight for DoD Space Test Program (STP), research and development (R&D) payloads, experiments, risk-reduction demonstrations, and Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) systems.

Mission Partners / Contractor Support

- Aerospace
- AFRL
- Army
- Jackson & Tull
- MEI Technologies
- Missile Defense Agency
- NASA
- Navy
- Operationally Responsive Space Office



Col Krueger – SDD Chief

The Space Development Division (SDD) runs the DoD Space Test Program (STP) and also provides rapid space acquisition to answer urgent warfighter requirements by supporting responsive space. STP was first chartered in 1965, flying its first mission in 1967. Since then, STP has flown over 500 experiments on over 200 missions, including Space Shuttle, International Space Station, and EELV missions. SDD launched and provides vital support for the ORS-1 satellite, which provides imagery directly to combatant commanders; ORS-1 was the first space asset assigned to a geographic command for direct tasking.

Spacecraft Development Branch (SDDS)

The Spacecraft Development Branch provides spaceflight for DoD STP payloads by developing, integrating, testing, and launching experimental technologies and space systems. SDDS supports risk reduction activities for DoD space programs, integrates experiments as secondary payloads on DoD spacecraft, and demonstrates technology for future space systems.

Responsive Space Branch (SDDR)

The Responsive Space Branch develops, tests, fields and sustains rapid space acquisitions to answer urgent warfighter operational requirements. SDDR's mission is to use innovative acquisition approaches to rapidly field responsive space capabilities to support Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) and Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) Office requirements. SDDR collaborates with the ORS Office to execute responsive missions – combining Research and Development experience with operational objectives.

Human Spaceflight Payloads Branch (SDDH, OL-S)

The Human Spaceflight Payloads Branch, located at the Johnson Space Center in Texas, provides spaceflight for advanced DoD R&D experiments and prototype operational systems aboard human rated space-based platforms utilizing US civil, foreign and commercial launch vehicles. They provide integration, launch, and on-orbit operations for DoD R&D satellites, man-in-the-loop space experiments, and external experiments on the International Space Station (ISS). OL-S develops long-range plans for DoD's exploitation of future human-rated launch capabilities.

Mission Design Branch (SDDM)

The Mission Design Branch manages STP and supports SAF/AQS with the Space Experiments Review Board (SERB) process. SDDM generates missions by balancing priority (military relevance), opportunities and available funding. Mission Design is also responsible for identifying spaceflight opportunities for DoD auxiliary payloads on DoD, civil and commercial missions on a cost reimbursable basis.