



# **Commercial Orbital Transportation Services (COTS) Program Status**

**and**

## **GeoQuickRide (GQR) Overview**

**Briefing at DOC/NOAA Industry Day on  
*Seeking Commercial Capabilities to Address USG Requirements  
For Satellite-Based Observations*  
28 January, 2008**

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**COMMERCIAL CREW & CARGO**



# **International Space Station Role in COTS**

## **● Need**

- ◆ NASA has an immediate need and long term obligation to service ISS

## **● Status**

- ◆ Policy is to retire Space Shuttle by 2010
- ◆ Current agreements for International Partner space transportation capabilities are insufficient to meet projected ISS needs
- ◆ Shortfall is about 80 metric tons of cargo to meet ISS resupply needs from 2010-2015

## **● Strategy**

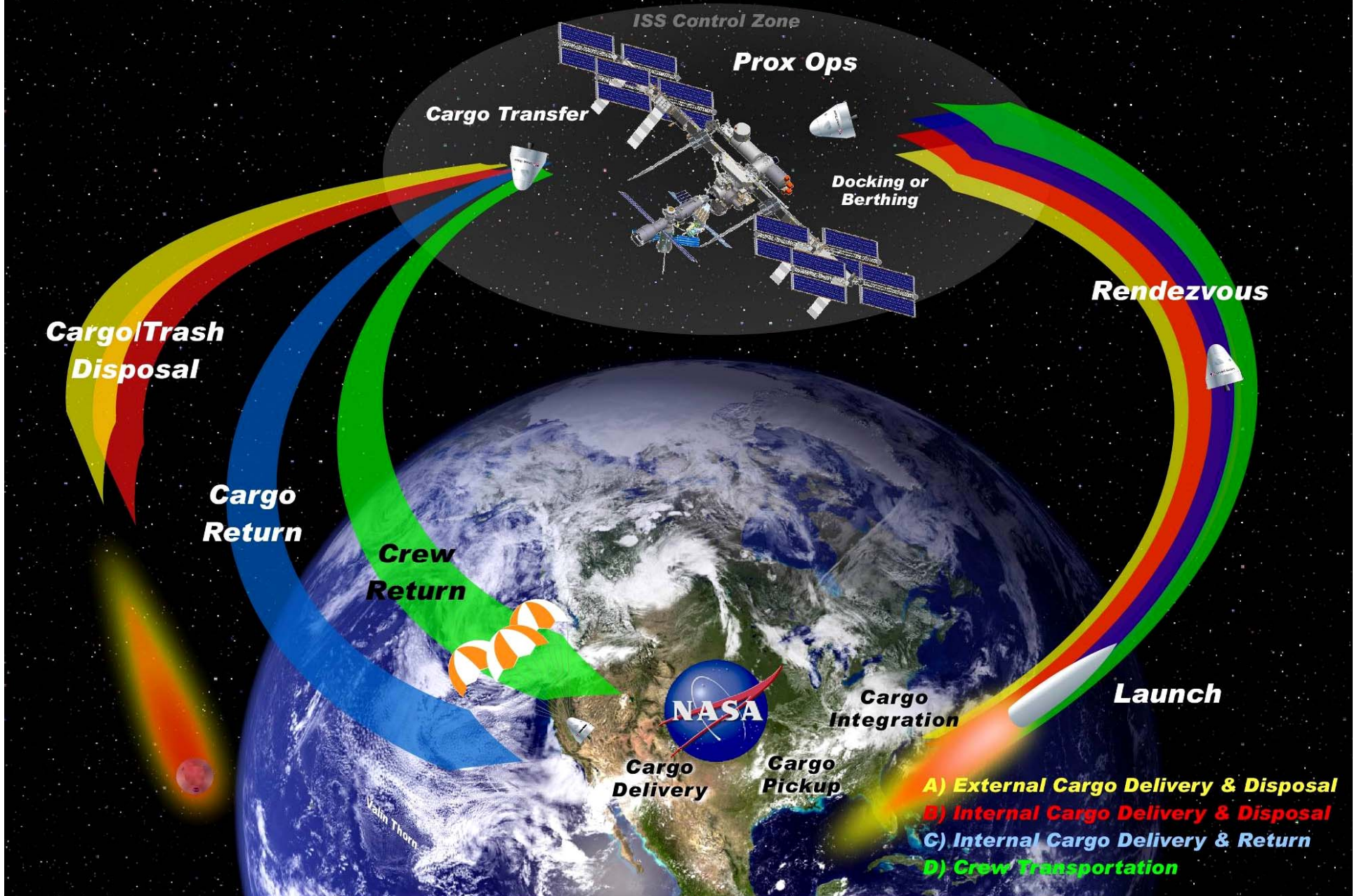
- ◆ NASA is developing an ISS cargo resupply strategy using a mixed fleet of foreign vehicles and US commercial service providers
- ◆ Strategy is to purchase US commercial orbital transportation services (COTS) as soon as available
- ◆ Purchase of foreign services will bridge the gap until reliable, cost effective US commercial services are available





# NASA Commercial Crew & Cargo Program

## Commercial Orbital Transportation Services







## COTS Overview

- **\$500M budgeted in FY06-FY10**
- **NASA *investment* in the demonstration of commercial orbital transportation capabilities**
- **COTS Project executed in two phases:**
  - ◆ **Phase 1: Technical Development/Demonstration funded Space Act Agreements (SAA)**
  - ◆ **Phase 2: Competitive Procurement of Commercial Orbital Transportation Services**
- **Phase 1 competition executed Jan-Aug 2006**
- **Phase 1 SAAs include an *option* for crew transportation demonstrations**
  - ◆ **Pending successful cargo demonstrations *and* additional NASA funding**
- **Phase 2 planning has been initiated within NASA to support the procurement of ISS commercial cargo services by 2010**

***COTS Phase 1 is NOT a procurement or contract for products and services –  
It is NASA's catalyst for commercial capability demonstrations where the potential high  
return on investment outweighs the associated financial risk***



# COTS Innovative Features

## ● Phase 1 Competition

- ◆ Utilized NASA's Space Act authority vs. FAR contract
- ◆ Emphasized management team skills vs. company past performance
- ◆ Business plan and financial criteria similar to private investment models
- ◆ Broadly targeted technical goals for the general space transportation market
  - Firm requirements/processes where necessary for ISS certification and human safety
- ◆ Encouraged private investment to share costs, enable multiple awards, and maximize capability coverage

## ● Space Act Agreement

- ◆ Companies retain maximum rights to intellectual and personal property allowed by law
- ◆ FAA licensing and cross-waiver liability provisions
- ◆ Fixed-price performance milestone payments
  - Series of incremental milestones based on objective criteria
- ◆ Restricted termination provisions

*COTS is a Government-Industry partnership  
paving a new way of doing business with the private sector*





## COTS Participants

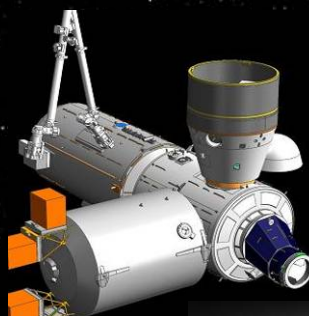
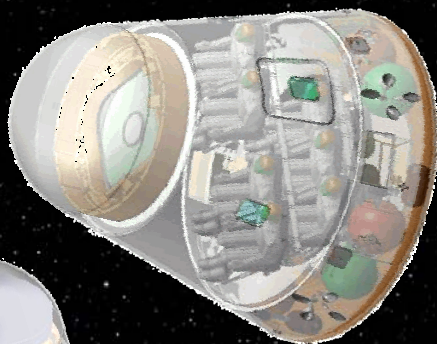
- Received 21 proposals from 20 companies across the full spectrum of industry in the 1<sup>st</sup> round competition
- Down selected to 6 companies for final evaluation and negotiations – 2 selected for portfolio of funded SAAs
  - ◆ Andrews Space
  - ◆ SpaceDev
  - ◆ SPACEHAB
  - ◆ Transformational Space Corp. (t/Space)
  - ◆ **Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX)**
  - ◆ **Rocketplane Kistler (RpK)**

*\$ Funded Space Act Agreement \$*

*Terminated Oct 18, 2007*



# Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX) COTS Concept



## Description:

- Falcon 9 Launch Vehicle
- Dragon Crew/Cargo Spacecraft

## Proposed Features:

- Flexible crew and cargo configurations
- Recoverable launch vehicle and spacecraft
- ISS cargo delivery & return demonstration planned for completion by September 2009
- NASA Investment:
  - ◆ Cargo Demonstration – up to \$278 M
  - ◆ Crew Option – up to \$308 M additional

**SPACEX**  
Space Exploration Technologies

<http://www.spacex.com/>



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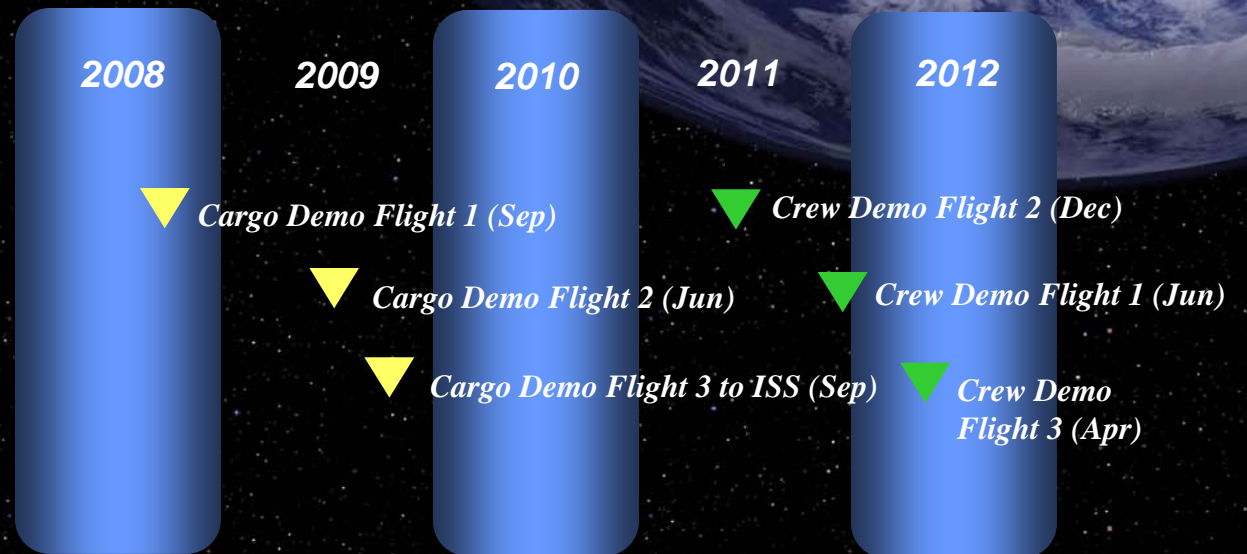
## **Phase 1 Re-competition Initiated**

- **NASA terminated its SAA with RpK on October 18, 2007**
  - ◆ **Two milestones missed**
    - **Financing Round 2**
    - **Pressurized Cargo Module CDR**
  - ◆ **May submit a proposal in new competition**
- **COTS Phase 1 Round 2 Announcement released Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**
  - ◆ **Full and open competition for remaining balance of \$174M funding**
  - ◆ **Proposal's due November 21<sup>st</sup>**
  - ◆ **Award of new funded SAA(s) is targeted for February 2008**



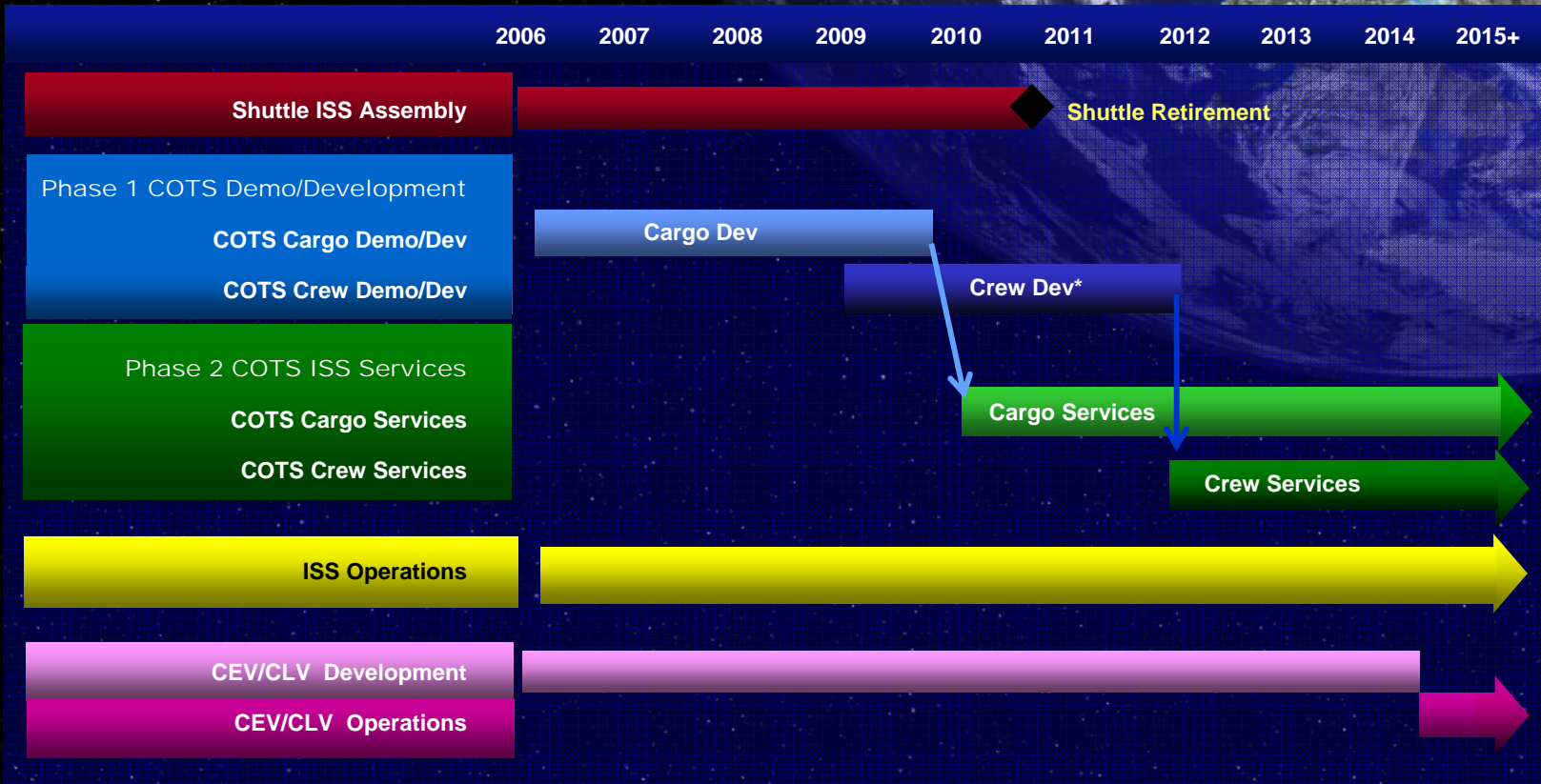


# COTS Flight Demonstrations





# COTS Timeline



**\* COTS crew transportation capability is a Phase 1 option and is currently not funded or authorized**





## Other COTS Partnerships

- **Nonreimbursable (unfunded) SAAs enabling NASA technical assistance with space transportation capability development have been signed with five companies :**
  - ◆ **Constellation Services International (CSI)**
  - ◆ **PlanetSpace**
  - ◆ **SpaceDev**
  - ◆ **SPACEHAB**
  - ◆ **Transformational Space Corp. (t/Space)**



## Summary

- U.S. space policy directs pursuit of commercial opportunities for providing transportation and other services to low Earth orbit and beyond
- NASA's COTS Program established to implement policy with significant investments to stimulate the commercial space industry
- COTS significantly reduced barriers to entry to enable entrepreneurial approaches for the commercial space transportation market

*Successful COTS providers  
may open new space markets and provide  
reliable, cost effective cargo and crew transportation services,  
beginning a new era for commercial space*





# **GeoQuickRide (GQR)**

## **Overview**

- **Fly science instruments and technology demos on the excess capacity of commercial GEO communication satellites**
- **1998/99 GQR Studies on Commercial Spacecraft Opportunities:**
  - ◆ **Average excess capacity: mass: 89kg, power: 460W & volume**
  - ◆ **Commercial: 4 US manufactures & 4+ U.S. owner/operators**
- **Changes at NASA and the spacecraft industry are creating opportunities for piggybacking on commercial satellites**
- **Owner/Operators provide: spacecraft accommodations; integration support; & ground station/mission ops support**
- **Commercial Spacecraft Mission Life:**
  - ◆ **Mission life of 15 years and GQR payloads use BOL capacity**
- **FAA's 2004 Commercial Space Transportation Forecast: ~ 23.4 commercial launches/year, 2004-13**

**([http://ast.faa.gov/rep\\_study/forcasts\\_and\\_reports.htm](http://ast.faa.gov/rep_study/forcasts_and_reports.htm))**

**GQR (<http://rsdo.nasa.gov>) Bob Caffrey 301-286-0846**



A New Era In Spaceflight Is Beginning...



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