



NOAA's Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs

Tahara Dawkins
Director

NOAA's Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs Office

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Current Trends

- Explosion of new licensees & licenses
 - 26 issued FY 96 to FY10
 - 41 issued FY10 to present
 - 5 applications in process
 - 15 other entities told they must apply
- Explosion of foreign and domestic Ground Station inspection sites
 - 26 sites at end of FY10
 - 70 current sites -- 20 countries
 - 10 sites pending approval
 - 100+ sites anticipated by FY16
- Increase in Quarterly and Annual Audits
- Expect a corresponding increase in foreign agreements



Current Trends

- Small Sats will dominate market and workload
 - Lower cost for build (COTS) & launch (secondary payload)
 - Rapid refresh
 - Significant increase in foreign Small Sats
- Larger Cubesats...6U becoming common
 - Future missions: limited propulsion, telescoping optics
- Constellation licenses
 - Foreign constellations...Satellogic “300”
- Licenses for ISS platform operations and Cubesats deployment
- Different sensors: Hyper, SWIR, LWIR, Radiometric, Video
- Operations requiring Non-Earth Imaging (NEI) to support primary mission--proximity operations to natural and man-made objects
- Satellite refueling, asteroid mining
- Increase in on-orbit satellites...currently 87....6 on Oct 1, 2010



Issues

- Licensing position de-funded...currently 1 deep since Feb 2014
- FY 15 Inspection budget is 90% of current requirement
 - Falls farther behind as each new location is added
- Expanding Shutter Control requirements
 - TBD manpower, training, software and hardware requirements
- Special Collects
- Non-Earth Imaging (NEI)



Issues

- Need to streamline Cubesat reviews/license processing
- CubeSat imagery review
- Increased inspection requirements
- New technologies
- Increased foreign capability
- Part domestic – Part foreign owner/operators



Questions?