

Commercial Approaches for ACE Follow On



Space Weather Workshop Roundtable

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April 29, 2009



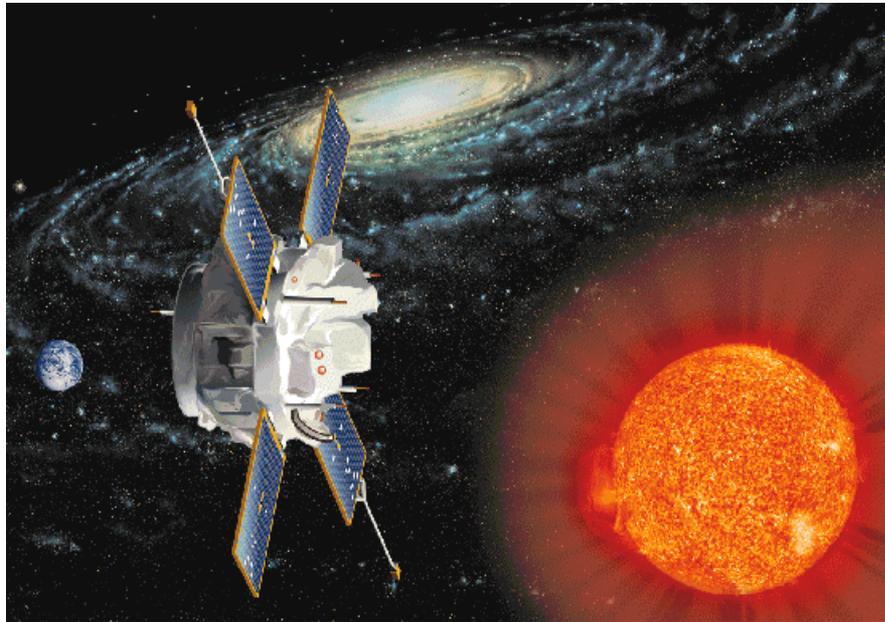
Global Consensus on the Need to Replace ACE

- Avoidance of “Cosmic Katrina” potential \$2 trillion loss in year one (NAS)



Decision Appears Imminent

- Multiple NOAA studies,
- NOAA/NASA direction from Senate to review DSCOVR status,
- initiation of DSCOVR instrument refurb.



Commercial Solution is Superior (DSCOVR or new build)

1. Consistent with National Policy/emergent “best practices” (COTS, imagery data purchases)
2. Commercial approaches provide smooth budget profiles in tight budgetary environments
3. Commercial approach includes insurance coverage to fund launch and “on station” failure
4. Commercial approach includes a second spacecraft for ground or “hot spare”
5. Commercial approach represents “good value” for the USG and a profitable opportunity for industry – NOAA 3rd party review conclusion 3 years ago



Recognized by the National Academy of Sciences

National Research Council

“... the committee learned of a potential partnership between NOAA and a private company that, pending support from NASA, might allow the DSCOVR (Sentinel) Spacecraft to launch on an expendable launch vehicle to L-1. In addition to its observing the Earth from a unique perspective, DSCOVR carries a solar wind monitor that would fulfill the highest space weather recommendation of the Panel on Weather as well as the highest recommendation for NOAA as expressed in the recent NRC decadal survey in solar and space physics.”

*Earth Science & Application from Space:
National Imperatives for the Next Decade and Beyond*
National Academy of Sciences 2007

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Elements of a Favorable Decision to “Go Commercial”

- Can the private sector finance? Does the business case close?
- For DSCOVR, will NASA make the spacecraft available?
- Will NOAA make assets (tracking, frequencies, websites) available?





Defending Life's Infrastructure from Solar Storms



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