The Air Force Research Laboratory and Space Weather R2O

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100 YEARS OF U.S. AIR FORCE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



COMBATANT COMMANDS

SPACE WEATHER OPERATIONS







COMBATANT COMMANDS

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SPACE WEATHER OPERATIONS



BASIC RESEARCH

APPLIED RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT



REQUIREMENTS, ACQUISITION & SUSTAINMENT



Breaking the Stovepipes





Space Weather

Data



Space sensors Ground sensors



SPACENEWS

U.S. Plans \$6 Billion Investment in Space Situational Awareness

by Mike Gruss — October 19, 2015

The Energetic Charged Particle sensor will monitor space radiation, data that will be used in part to distinguish between naturally occurring and man-made events. Earlier this year, Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James mandated that all new satellite programs plan to include the Energetic Charged Particle sensor, prototypes of which are expected to be delivered in fiscal year 2018, the report said.







The service labs uniquely connect the elements between space weather research and operational applications

Next-Generation Systems are Expensive!

SPACENEWS

U.S. Plans \$6 Billion Investment in Space Situational Awareness

by Mike Gruss — October 19, 2015

The Washington Post White House proposes steep budget cut to leading climate science agency

By Steven Mufson, Jason Samenow and Brady Dennis March 3

SPACENEWS Budget issues could delay space weather mission

by Jeff Foust - January 24, 2017

\$186.1 million in 2019, the peak year of the program. The program has an estimated total life cycle cost of \$757.7 million.

Maximum alignment of civil, DoD and allied investments is essential to affordably bring next-generation capabilities to our end users



Solar Observing: Current Architecture



Solar Observing: Could-Be Architecture



The Story So Far...

- Significant research investments have unlocked secrets of the space environment
- All of the existing systems are built on the work of this community
- Space weather impacts and operations are becoming mainstream topics
- Commercial and allied partners are well-positioned as partners

But There Are Challenges...

- Need closer coordination of end-user needs with ops and underlying research
- Infrastructure is in need of recapitalization to enable next-generation capabilities

The next chapter demands all stakeholders be on the same page, and working together toward next-generation space weather capabilities



