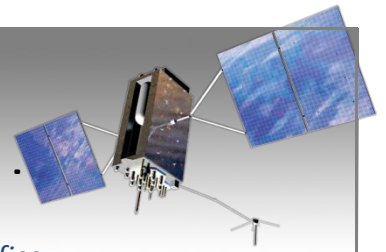


GPS

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Information for Policymakers from the National Coordination Office
for Space-Based Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT)

December 2012

Congress Finalizes FY 2013 Defense Authorization with Guidance for GPS Program

Congress is set to send the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013 (H.R. 4310) to the President this week. The legislation authorizes \$1.262 billion for the GPS program, with \$1.5 million cut from the Next Generation Operational Control System. The act requires a report and exercise plan on the military's readiness to operate in environments where GPS and other information systems are denied. Additionally, it repeals a biennial GPS reporting requirement established in 1997. For more, go to www.gps.gov/policy/funding/2013/.

House Committee Holds Hearing on Receivers and the Spectrum Crunch

On November 29, the House Communications and Technology Subcommittee held a hearing to explore how to address wireless spectrum demand by improving receiver design. The recent interference conflict involving GPS receivers and the LightSquared wireless network was often referenced. Subcommittee members were interested in the concept of "harm claim thresholds" as an alternative to directing the FCC to impose receiver standards. Further action will follow the release of the FCC's Technical Advisory Committee report, due before the end of the year, and a GAO report anticipated in February.

New Director for PNT Coordination Office



On December 17, Dr. Jan Brecht-Clark took over as director of the National Coordination Office for Space-Based PNT, replacing Mr. Anthony Russo. She is responsible for coordinating interagency program plans, requirements, budgets, policies, and outreach related to space-based PNT. Dr. Brecht-Clark just completed a 19-month assignment as the Counselor for Transportation with the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. Prior to that, she was an Associate Administrator at DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration. Mr. Russo is now the chief program engineer in NASA's Space Communications and Navigation Division.

Newest GPS Satellite Now Operational

The Air Force successfully completed the checkout of the GPS satellite launched on October 4. The new satellite, the third in the Block IIF series of modernized GPS spacecraft, is now part of the operational constellation of 31 GPS satellites. To learn more about GPS modernization, visit www.gps.gov/systems/gps/modernization/.

Application Spotlight: Navigating Arlington Cemetery

This fall Arlington National Cemetery launched a new mobile smart phone app, called ANC Explorer, which uses GPS technology to help its visitors navigate many of the gravesites.

The app not only assists cemetery visitors obtain directions to their loved one's gravesite, but it provides a real time schedule of burials, wreath-laying ceremonies, and other events.

To learn more about ANC Explorer or to download the application, please visit <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/map/ANCEXplorer.aspx>.



SPACE-BASED POSITIONING
NAVIGATION & TIMING
NATIONAL COORDINATION OFFICE

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