

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**REFORMS FOR ITAR ANNOUNCED  
NATIONAL SPACE SECURITY OFFICE ISSUES DECLARATION AT  
TRANSFORMING SPACE 2007 CONFERENCE**

**LOS ANGELES** -- "There's a wave of change about to occur," announced Joseph Rouge, Associate Director of the National Space Security Office, referring to policy changes forthcoming from the federal government to reform International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), which aerospace primes and suppliers have long claimed hinder their ability to compete in the global marketplace.

The announcement was made during the lunchtime session at the Transforming Space 2007 Conference hosted this week at the Sheraton LAX Gateway Hotel by the California Space Authority (CSA). Rouge, who focused his remarks on changes in space policy that have occurred during the current Bush administration, said that his agency has recently completed an extensive study, fed by industry input, on barriers to U.S. business caused by ITAR. He claimed that he can now substantiate many of the anecdotes of ITAR flaws that he has heard from the industry over the years with real evidence. "We now have documentation of the seriousness of the problem," he said.

The agency hopes to initiate changes as early as next spring, Rouge promised, which was received by a round of applause from both commercial and defense space industry leaders attending the conference luncheon. "The military critical technology list is out of date and we will fix that," Rouge said. "The system is too slow and not responsive enough, and we'll be fixing that, too."

The agency leader asked audience members to let him know if there are technologies they know of being sold internationally that are on the critical list in order to assist in the updating process. "If it's being sold internationally then it's not military use, is it?" Rouge queried. On the other hand, Rouge claimed that the government has no intention of getting rid of ITAR altogether, responding to letters he has received from the industry calling for the regulations' abolishment.

Andrea Seastrand, Executive Director of CSA, responded to the news with enthusiasm. "The California Space Authority is heartened to learn that the federal government will soon address the unintended consequences of the current ITAR policies and procedures. We've sought improvements to these policies and procedures through the education of public officials since 1999. It's a welcome sound to hear that our voice is finally being heard. We stand ready to work with the National Space Security Office to implement the changes."

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*California Space Authority is a nonprofit organization supporting California's commercial, civil and national security space stakeholders. Governed by a statewide board of directors, CSA works closely with the State of California, industry, other government, education, workforce entities and academia to support space enterprise development and expansion statewide.*