

Space Sustainability Rating : a voluntary exercise to incentivize operators toward sustainable behaviours in space



eSpace
 EPFL Space
 Center

Contains Proprietary information: Please do not disclose without Authorization



Why a space sustainability rating?



Distribution of orbital debris (August 25, 2009)

eSpace
 EPFL Space
 Center

© NASA Orbital Debris Program Office, image based on models (debris size not to scale)









International Organization for Standardization





Our mission

"To **Promote Sustainable Behavior** of Space Actors by issuing a **recognized rating**"

By

Creating an **incentive** to **design** missions compatible with sustainable operations and **operate** missions considering also the potential harm to the orbital environment and on other operators.

Agenda



SSR and the Long-Term Sustainability Guidelines

SSR - Modules and certification issuing

7 modules

EPFL

eSpace EPFL Space

Center

Evaluated by ESA (Mission index), MIT/UT Austin (DIT) and eSpace (all the rest)

Different certification tiers

Depending on the rating's results

SSR as a consultancy tool

To sustainable behaviors in space

A recognized rating

Supported and advised by world leading organizations





More information here:

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Space_Sustainability_Rating_2021.pdf

Benefit of SSR for operators

Certify and promote the sustainability level of a mission



Obtain a certification without disclosing any sensitive mission data



Get a guidance on best practices and sustainable space operations



SSR consortium and advisors



EPFL SSR Advisory Group Meeting, December 2021



EPFL What are the strengths of the SSR (advisory group meeting, December 2021)?



Advisory group meeting

9

- 23 major organizations present at the event
- Feedback are encouraging
- Interest of operators confirmed
- Create the SSR non-profit organization is the next step

eSpace EPFL Space Center



Roadmap





SSR Association Governance

SSR association entities and status

Labeled operators



Customer paying for SSR as a service in order to obtain the SSR certification

eSpace

Center

SSR Association Governance

SSR association entities organization



13

- A.4 Equitable and efficient use of orbital regions
 → *Mission index module* A.5 Registering space objects
 - → Standards & Regulations module
- B1, B2,
 B4
 Provide contact information, share and improve orbital data, perform conjunction assessment
 - → Collision Avoidance and Data sharing Modules
- C1, C2, D1, D2 Promote international cooperation, share experience and develop new procedures and measures, promote and support research related to long term sustainability of outer space activities → Core objectives of the SSR initiative

eSpace
 EPFL Space
 Center

Based on the paper from70th International Astronautical Congress (IAC), Washington D.C., United States, 21-25 October 2019. Copyright ©2019 by the International Astronautical Federation (IAF). All rights reserved.

EPFL SSR as a tool to supplement and encourage to implement the UN guidelines

Implementation of the UN LTS and space debris mitigation guidelines as a criteria in the evaluation for rating a mission

In the Application of Design & Operations Standards Module

Detailed criteria for operators to implement

SSR uses many aspects of the UN LTS and is defining measures that can directly be implemented by operators

SSR as an incentive to sustainable design and operation

SSR is encouraging sustainable design and operations complying with UN LTS guidelines, space debris mitigation guidelines and others

eSpace EPFL Space Center



How can one contribute?

Spread the word

SSR is a global effort and is trying to federate operators, researchers, policy makers

Become a member of the association

And be involved in the future evolution and discussions around SSR

Encourage operators to get a rating



Thank you for your attention

Adrien Saada Emmanuelle David contact: ssr@groupes.epfl.ch





eSpace EPFL Space Center



Contact

email: <u>ssr@groupes.epfl.ch</u>

Emmanuelle David – Executive manager emmanuelle.david@epfl.ch

Adrien Saada – SSR Operation officer adrien.saada@epfl.ch



eSpace EPFL Space Center

18

Policy and regulatory framework for space activities:

A.4 Ensure the equitable, rational and efficient use of the radio frequency of the various orbital rational and efficient use of orbital regions regarding spectrum and the various orbital regions used by satellites space debris

→ Mission index module

A.5	Enhance	the	practice	of	Captured as part of the composite indicator of the
registering space objects					SSR.
					→ Standards & Regulations module

Based on the paper from 70th International Astronautical Congress (IAC), Washington D.C., United States, 21-25 October 2019. Copyright ©2019 by the International Astronautical Federation (IAF). All rights reserved.

Safety of space operations

B.1 Provide updated contact information and share information on space objects and orbital events	Captured as part of the composite indicator of the SSR. The SSR itself would be an example of following the guideline. → Collision Avoidance and Data Sharing Modules
B.2 Improve accuracy of orbital data on space objects and enhance the practice and utility of sharing orbital information on space objects	Captured as part of the composite indicator of the SSR. → Collision Avoidance and Data Sharing Modules
B.4 Perform conjunction assessment during all orbital phases of controlled flight	Captured as part of the numerical risk indicator of the SSR. → Collision Avoidance Module
B.8 Design and operation of space objects regardless of their physical and operational characteristics	Partially addresses as part of the composite indicator in terms of the design standard and regulatory framework followed. Whereas the spirit of the guideline is to avoid limiting certain consideration for certain classes of object, it needs to be pointed out that in the numerical risk indicator of the SSR, consideration is made for the space debris potential of an object which depends on the physical and operational characteristics.

International cooperation, capacity building and Awareness

C.1 Promote and facilitate international cooperation in support of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities	the SSR itself would be an example of following the guideline.
C.2 Share experience related to the long- term sustainability of outer space activities and develop new procedures , as appropriate, for information exchange	the SSR itself would be an example of following the guideline.

Scientific and technical research and development

D.1 Promote and support research into and the development of ways to support sustainable exploration and use of outer space	Not applicable as this is the domain of the nation States. However, SSR goal is to promote and support research in the domain of space sustainability.
D.2 Investigate and consider new measures to manage the space debris population in the long Term	Not applicable to the individual operator or manufacturer targeted by the SSR. However, the SSR itself would be an example of following the guideline as iterations of the rating methodology will be proposed.