

# Update on CONFERS And Commercial Satellite Servicing Standards

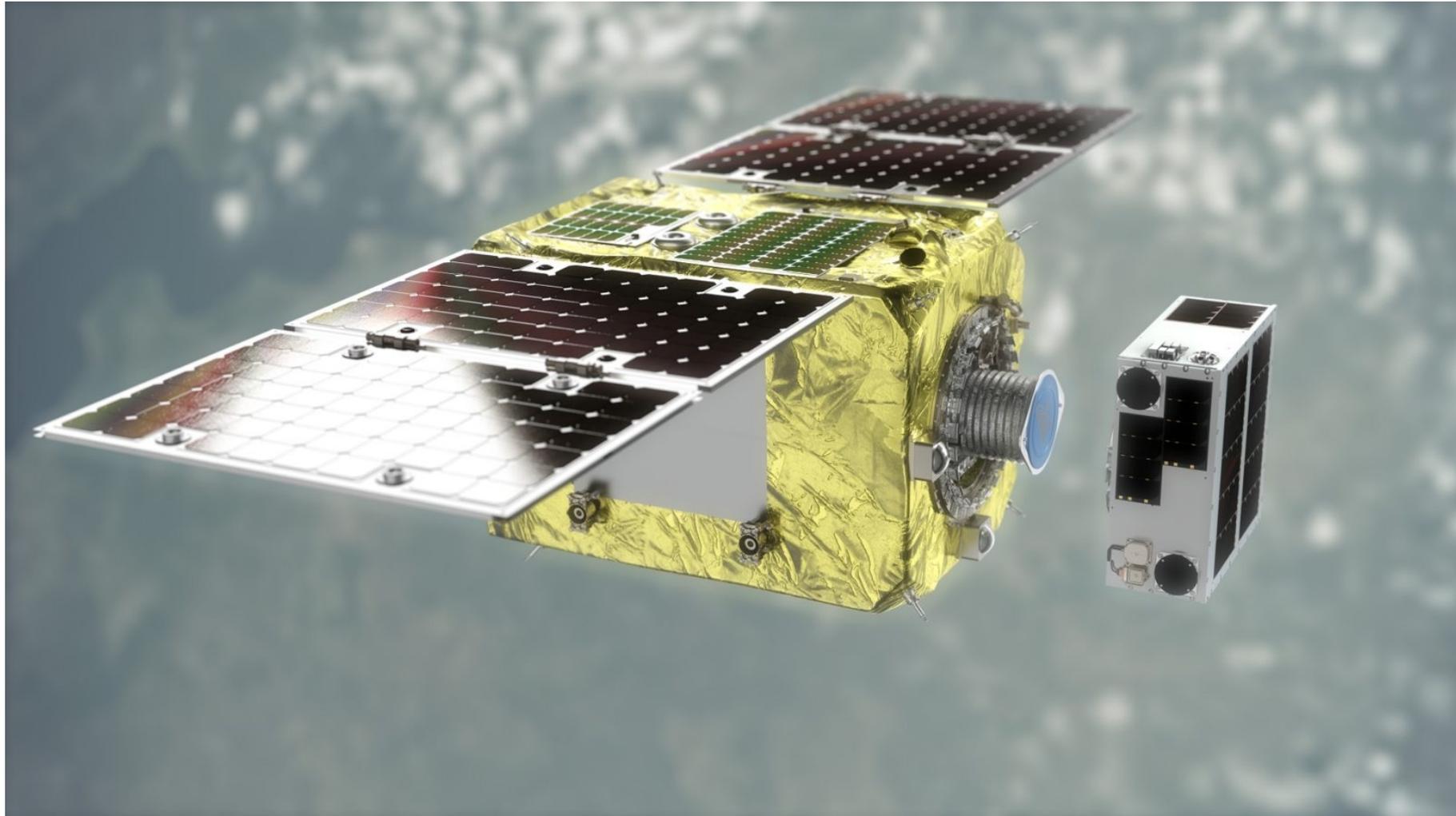
February 2023

Brian Weeden, Secure World Foundation  
CONFERS Executive Director

# Commercial Satellite Servicing Successes



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**iSSI® Flight Qualification Experiment (iSSI-FQE)**

**Completed! (Feb-Dec 2022)**

**The iSSI® (intelligent Space System Interface) Modular Coupling Kit by iBOSS®: Enabling Ultimate Plug-and-Play in Space (ISAM)**

Credit: Skycorp Incorporated

# Founding and Background

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- CONFERS was initiated in October 2017 by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) under the US Department of Defense.
- CONFERS transitioned to an independent, self-sustaining entity in December 2022
  - Registered as a not-for-profit corporation
- Open to participation by stakeholders from the international satellite servicing community, including companies, universities, and government agencies
- Primary objectives:
  - Advocate and promote satellite servicing, including but not limited to maintenance, repair, assembly, manufacturing, and inspection
  - Develop industry-led standards that contribute to a sustainable, safe, and diverse space economy
  - Engage with governments on policy and oversight of satellite servicing activities

# Membership

- 61 member organizations from US, Australia, Canada, Europe, Japan, Mexico, and New Zealand
- Most of our members are early-stage start-ups or small and medium sized companies

## Sustaining Members



## Contributing Members



## Observer Members



## Government Observer Members



# Leadership



Chris Blackerby, President  
Astroscale Holdings



Joerg Kreisel, Secretary  
iBoss GmbH



Jeremy Schiel, Treasurer  
OrbitFab



Jamie Landers  
Lockheed Martin

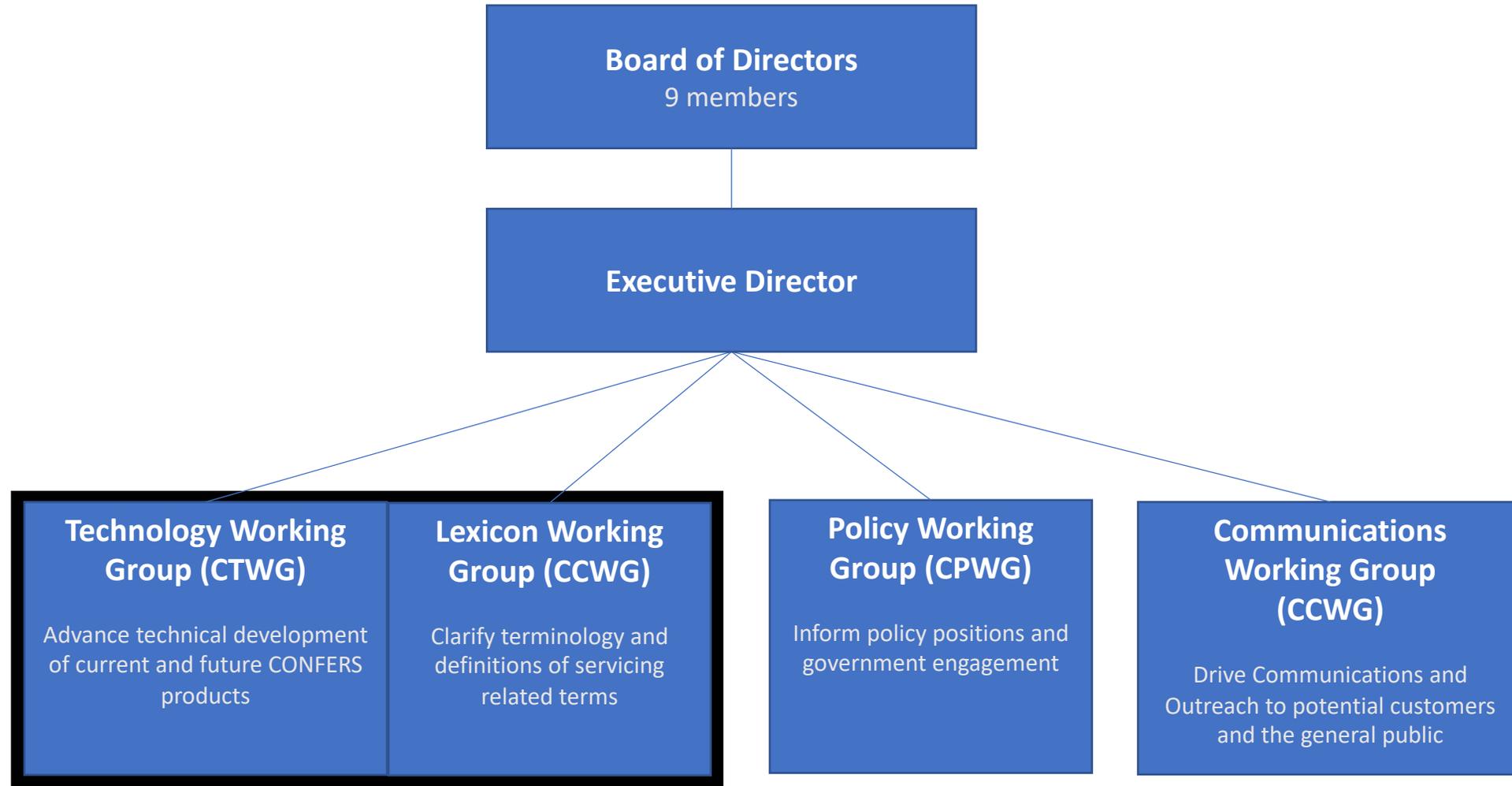


Chris Kunstadter,  
AXA XL



Joe Anderson  
Space Logistics LLC

# Organization



# Active Internal and External Interactions

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- Multiple workshops held annually for members and international government subject matter experts
  - Held 15 workshops since May 2018 in the United States, Germany, and the UK as well as virtual
- Direct interactions with policymakers in US, Europe, and Japan
- Appearances at conferences – booths and panel presentations
- Annual [Global Satellite Servicing Forum](#)
  - Held since 2018
  - Industry and government experts speak at 2-day conference dedicated to satellite servicing
- Presentation at UNCOPUOS in 2019, 2020, and 2022
- Panel, presentations, and booths at several major international conferences

# CONFERS Publications & Standards

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CONFERS has published the following documents

- [Guiding Principles](#) - Top-level principles that guide commercial RPO/OOS
- [Recommended Design and Operational Practices](#) - Recommended steps to take to improve safety & transparency
- [On-Orbit Servicing Mission Phases](#) - Breakdown of RPO/OOS mission phases and baseline for mitigation of risks
- [Lexicon of Terms and Definitions](#)

CONFERS has contributed to or has in work multiple standards related to satellite servicing:

- [ISO 24330](#) *Rendezvous and Proximity Operations (RPO) and On Orbit Servicing (OOS) — Programmatic principles and practices*
- AIAA S-155 (202X) *Rendezvous & Proximity Operations (RPO) & On-Orbit Servicing (OOS)—Spacecraft Fiducial Markers*
- AIAA S-157 (202X) *Prepared In-Space (Re)Fueling Systems*
- **Up Next:** Free-Flyer Capture, Power and Data Interfaces, Wireless Proximity Network, Navigation Data Messages

# What's Next

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- We are in the process of transitioning our members to a new structure as a not-for-profit trade association
- We are hiring a new full-time Executive Director who is expected to take over from me in the next few weeks.
- We welcome new international members who are interested in advancing satellite servicing, including government agencies
- Information on our publications and the membership application process is available on the CONFERS website at: [satelliteconfers.org](https://satelliteconfers.org)
- Any questions can be directed at Dr. Brian Weeden ([bweeden@swfound.org](mailto:bweeden@swfound.org))