



# Data Sharing for Space Traffic Management

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# Agenda

- Why was the SDA created
- Introduction to the SDA
- SDA Participants
- SDA's Main Services (Current)
- Why is SDA unique
- SDA Current challenges and opportunities
- Conclusions



# Why was the SDA created

- Seek and facilitate improved management of the shared resources of the Space Environment
- Enhance the safety and integrity of satellite operations through wider and improved coordination between satellite operators
- Improve the accuracy, timeliness, and transparency of collision avoidance predictions
- Adopt best practices across members
- Provide a computationally and legally secure framework for operations
- Combine authoritative owner/operator ephemerides to obtain best result

# Introduction to the SDA

- The SDA is an association of 30+ satellite operators focused on **space safety**.
- SDA Members collaborate and pool operational data to enable better **Conjunction Assessment (CA)** and **Space Traffic Coordination (STC)**, to mitigate the risks of satellite operations and preserve the space environment.
- The SDA's **legal structure** enables secure pooling of operational data and ensures that these data are used exclusively for the intended purpose.
- The SDA provides services through the **Space Data Centre (SDC)** webservice.
- The SDA operates on a non-profit basis and comprises public, commercial, civil/scientific.



# SPACE DATA ASSOCIATION



# SDA's Main Services (Current)

- 1) SSA product consistency and quality control checks.
- 2) O/O Eph vs O/O Eph Conjunction Assessment.
- 3) Ephemeris vs SP catalogue screening and summary of fleet-wide conjunctions.

**All services are agnostic of orbit domain, mission type, size.**

The SDA also raises awareness on satellite operators' best practices and shares relevant news and information.



# Why is SDA unique

- SDC scans **all** input data (TLE, SP, Eph) to find and report irregularities.
- Assesses veracity, accuracy, timeliness, and completeness of all SSA products.
- Ephemeris are **ingested**, not shared.
- Ephemeris are **normalised**.
- Ephemeris **includes** effects of manoeuvres.
- SDC scope and content are unique in the spaceflight safety arena.



SDA CDM Analysis result

**CDM ID 623334019**

Creation Date: 2023-12-13 06:19:30.000000 UTC (2.0 hours ago)

Upload Time: 2023-12-13 07:51:50 UTC (0.5 hours ago)

**Conjunction for 28628/INMARSAT 4-F1 [P] and 41729/JCSAT-16 [+]**

CDM min range at TCA (2023-12-13 11:34:17.657000 UTC; 0.13 days out) = 4.989 km

**Ephemeris vs. CDM/TLE Comparison**

<b>Primary</b>	SP Range at TCA: 171.862 km	TLE Range at TCA: 171.824 km
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Primary ephemeris epoch: 2023-12-06 00:00:00.000 UTC (7.35 days old)

**CDM vs. TLE Comparisons**

Primary Range at TCA: 0.182 km	Secondary Range at TCA: 10.068 km
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**CDM Conjunction Comparisons**

SP vs. SP	TCA: 2023-12-13 11:34:17.657 UTC, 4.989 km
<b>Ephemeris vs. SP</b>	TCA: 2023-12-13 11:34:36.330 UTC, 176.481 km
Ephemeris vs. TLE	TCA: 2023-12-13 11:34:54.588 UTC, 185.698 km
Ephemeris vs. Ephemeris	N/A

[Complete AGI Viewer Scenario](#)

*Notes:*

- Valid SDC ephemeris for primary
- No SDC ephemeris available for secondary





# SDA Challenges and Opportunities

## Challenges

- Infeasible to scale up without public funding and support.
- Divergence of regulatory regimes.
- Culture/language barrier.
- Technology outpacing regulators, the rise of mega constellations, In-Orbit Servicing, electrical propulsion.

## Opportunities

- A proved working model for the implementation of COPUOS Long-term Sustainability guidelines on “Safety of space operations”
  - B.1: contact information
  - B.2: accuracy of orbital data
  - B.3: space debris monitoring
  - B.4: conjunction assessment



# Conclusions

- The SDA is an association of public and private satellite operators committed to mitigate the risks of satellite operations and preserve the space environment.
- The SDA provides orbit regime agnostic services enabled by the secure pooling of Members' operational data and contact details.
- The SDA operates on a not-for-profit basis (services are provided at cost), which hinders scale-up activities.
- The SDA represents a successful working model to enable the implementation of the Long-Term Sustainability Guidelines.
- All member states operators are invited to join us, public, private, civil or military. Engage with the SDA at [www.space-data.org](http://www.space-data.org).



# Glossary

- **CA** – Conjunction Assessment
- **CDM** – Conjunction Data Message
- **COLA** – Collision Avoidance
- **Eph** – Ephemerides
- **O/O** – Owner Operator
- **SDA** – Space Data Association
- **SDC** – Space Data Centre
- **SP** – Special Perturbations
- **SSA** – Space Situational Awareness
- **STM** – Space Traffic Management
- **STC** – Space Traffic Coordination
- **TLE** – Two-Line Elements