GPS from a Strategic Engagement Viewpoint

What does the U.S. need to do to ensure that GPS continues to be considered the “Gold Standard” both domestically and internationally?
Who is the Space Enterprise Council?

- Consensus organization formed in 2000 to represent the interests of the commercial space industry
- Now represents all aspects of the space industry (commercial, civil, and national security)
- 24 diverse member companies
- Council’s mission is to advocate for the advancement of space commerce
  - L2C Media Day
  - A Day Without Space Forums
Washington Environment

- Continuing economic challenges
- Focus moving from Iraq to Afghanistan; focus on irregular warfare
- Budget pressures and program churn continues in administration and on Hill
  - Policy discussions should be based in the context of budget realities
Space Environment

- Has number of program problems
- Capabilities are either underappreciated and/or taken for granted
- Lack of visible space advocacy in DoD and on Hill
- Becoming recognized as a contested environment
- Looking to broaden international engagement
Implications

- Need to sustain and modernize the PNT enterprise
  - Performance paramount
- Themes
  - Policy Stability
  - Requirements Stability
  - Funding Stability
  - Leadership Stability
- Ensure transparency at every level; sustain extraordinary trust in stewardship
International Cooperation and Engagement Themes

- Continue transparency into the U.S. policymaking process
- Transparency leads to ability of foreign entities to make timely political and business decisions derived from confidence in the U.S. policy process
- Also need continued stability in the policy process
- End users will use whatever is the best system
International Cooperation and Engagement Policy

Under the title “International Space Cooperation”, the 2006 U.S. National Space Policy states:

The United States Government will pursue, as appropriate, and consistent with U.S. national security interests, international cooperation with foreign nations and/or consortia on space activities that are of mutual benefit and that further the peaceful exploration and use of space, as well as to advance national security, homeland security, and foreign policy objectives. The Secretary of State, after consultation with the heads of appropriate Departments and Agencies, shall carry out diplomatic and public diplomacy efforts, as appropriate, to build an understanding of and support for U.S. national space policies and programs and to encourage the use of U.S. space capabilities and systems by friends and allies.
Suggestions for a path forward

Strategic Engagement

- Increase the feedback loop for the PNT enterprise
  - Increase number of Advisory Board meetings (have live webfeed of the Advisory Board meetings)

- Create strategic engagement review team consisting of domestic/international and private/public sector participants
  - Need to create template/roadmap that can be used by GPS stakeholders to promote GPS both domestically and globally

- Utilize the “Day Without Space” concept created by the Space Enterprise Council and George Marshall Institute
  - Business sectors have spoken about how they rely on GPS and what it would mean to their business sector if the signal(s) were compromised
  - Need to include both executive and legislative branches in these exercises
  - In promoting GPS globally, we need to create a “with and without access to” list for GPS.
GPS as a critical national infrastructure

- Last time that GPS was examined as a critical national infrastructure was during GWB first term.
- Almost a decade of innovation has occurred in the many application areas including: timing, aviation, agriculture, marine, public safety and disaster relief, mapping and surveying.
- Time to re-examine GPS in the context of both ECONOMIC and NATIONAL security:
  - Will help determine real (current) impact of GPS
  - National operational risk assessment and mitigation plan