

NAC Institutional Committee Meeting
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NASA's Use of Space Act Agreements

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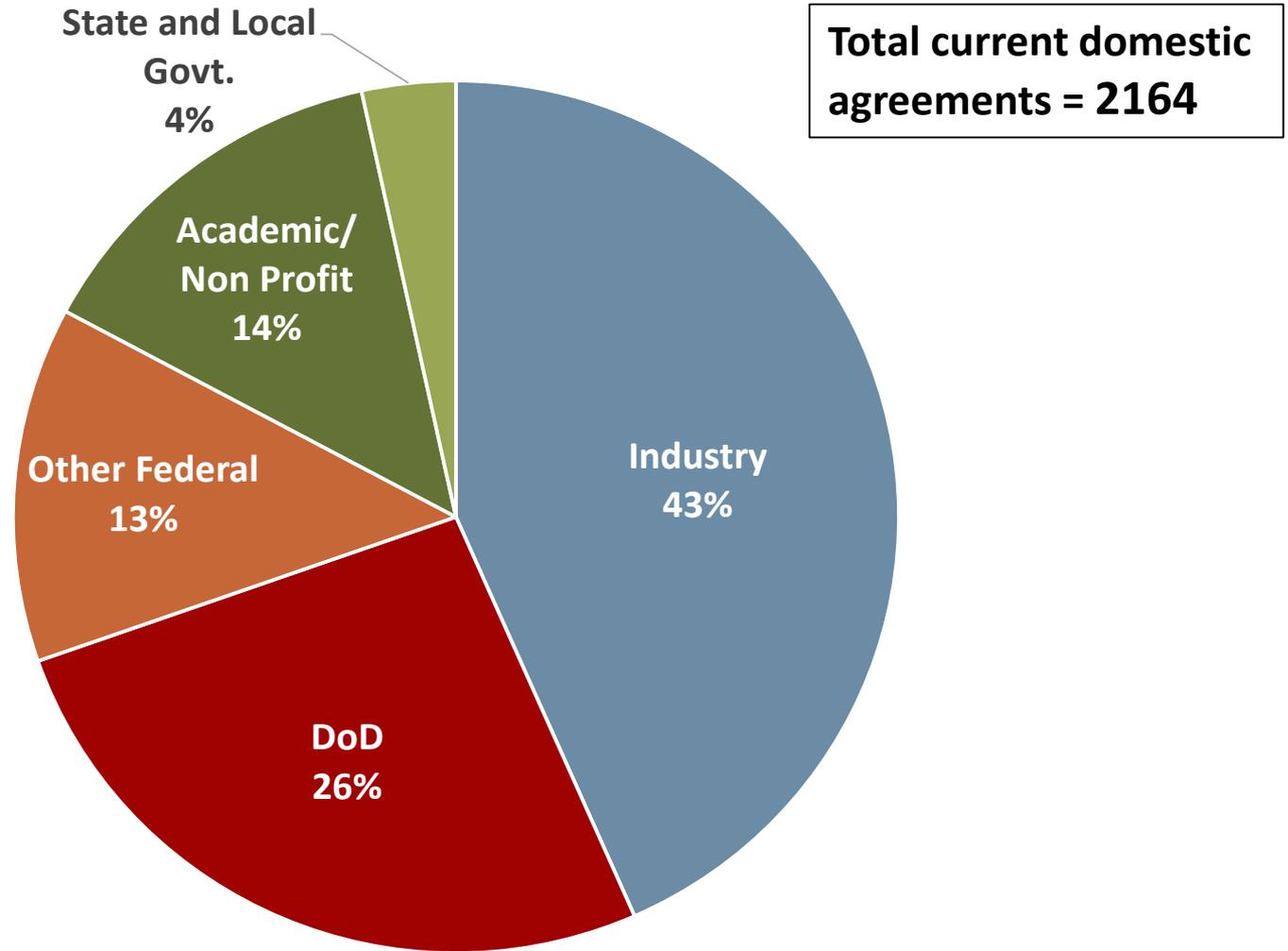
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Why does NASA Engage in Partnerships?

- NASA partners for a range of reasons – including furthering National policy (including foreign policy), mission realization, capability enhancement or sustainment, and economic innovation and U.S. competitiveness
- NASA Partnership Trends
 - Partnerships are increasing
 - The range of areas in which we partner continues to diversify
 - External partners and their capabilities are expanding
 - The dependency on and relevancy of partners for our missions and capabilities continues to grow
- *Ongoing focus on ensuring aligning between partnerships and the Agency's strategic goals and objectives*

Number of Active Domestic Agreements by Partner Segment*

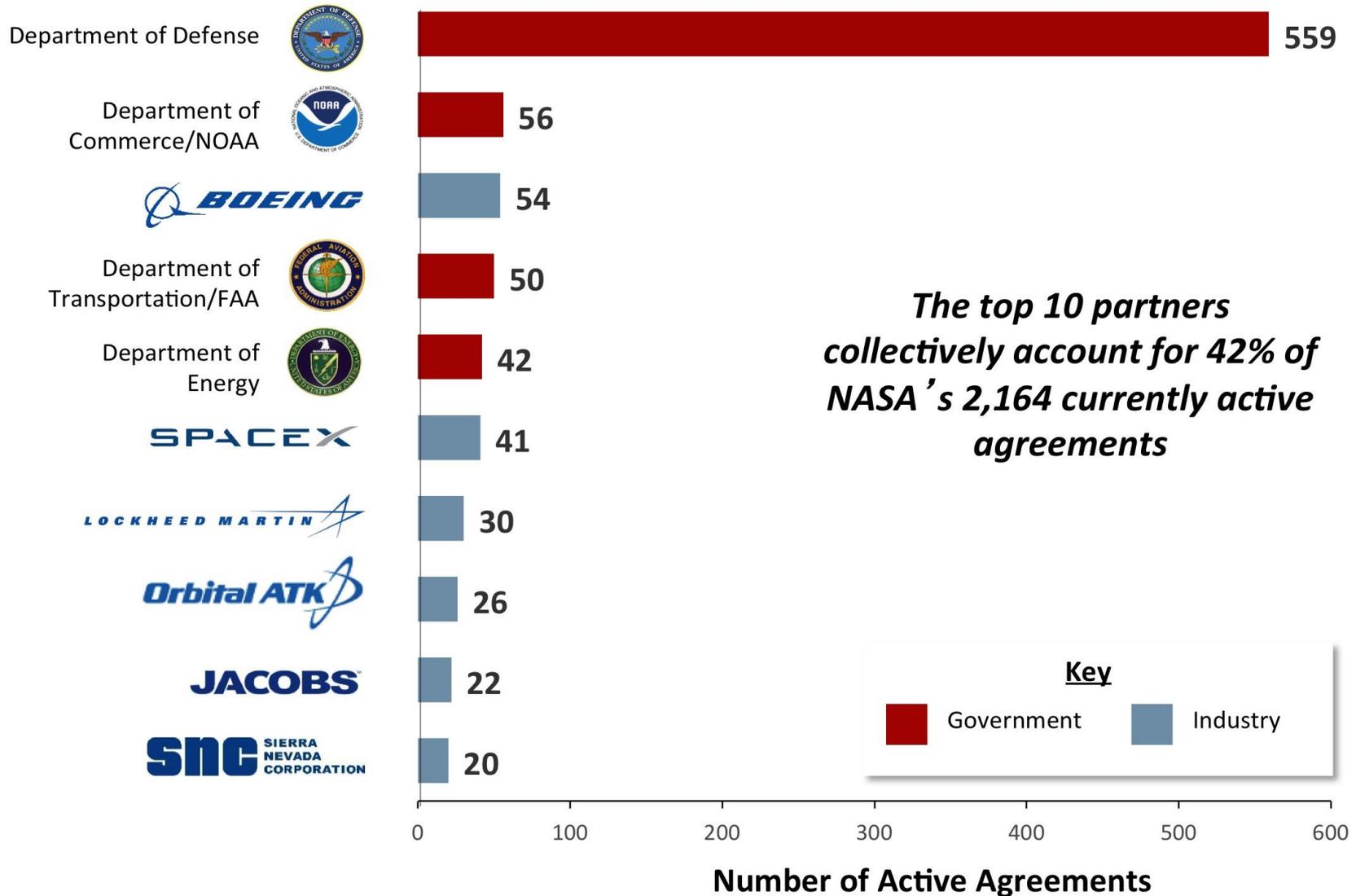
Industry is by far NASA's largest partner segment, accounting for nearly half of active agreements



*Source: NASA SAAM Database
Current active agreements as of 2/11/2015

Top Ten Partners With Active Domestic Agreements*

Industry is largest segment yet highly fragmented, whereas DoD is by far the largest single partner



*Source: NASA SAAM Database

A Focus on Partnerships

- NASA OIG issued Audit report IG-14-020 on “NASA’s Use of Space Act Agreements” on June 5, 2014
 - The report included seven recommendations for improving the transparency, accountability, and oversight of Space Act Agreements
 - NASA management concurred with all of the OIG recommendations
 - All corrective actions are already completed or are on-schedule to be completed by the established due dates
- The NASA OIG’s 2014 Report on “NASA’s Top Management and Performance Challenges” (issued November 14, 2014) identified “the proper use of Space Act Agreements” as part of one of the challenge areas for the Agency in 2015
- Anticipating these challenges, NASA management established a Partnership Council in December 2013 and a Partnership Office of Primary Responsibility in February 2014 to improve the Agency’s partnership policies and operational processes

Partnership Examples



Valkyrie robot developed in partnership with General Motors Corp.

Partnership Examples



Classroom visit from former astronaut and AA for Education Leland Melvin



Activity under NASA's partnership with LEGO aimed at increasing participation in science, technology, engineering and math fields

Partnership Examples



A NASCAR stock car performing a test at Kennedy's Shuttle Landing Facility

Partnership Examples



A crew works to film a scene of “GI Joe: Retaliation” at NASA’s Michoud Assembly Facility.

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OIG Recommendations from OIG Audit Report IG-14-020

Recommendation 1. Establish policy and procedures to increase awareness of NASA's capabilities, expertise, and facilities for SAA opportunities.

Recommendation 2. Revise Agency policies to clarify when it is appropriate to use SAAs versus other types of lease agreements and the manner in which the agreements must align to NASA missions.

Recommendation 3. Establish a close-out process or similar mechanism to track the costs and benefits of nonreimbursable SAAs. At a minimum, the process should capture (a) overall costs to the Agency; (b) whether the SAA's stated goals or objectives were accomplished, including an assessment of the overall performance of the partner; and (c) how the benefits were applied or utilized.

Recommendation 4. Complete and implement the Reimbursable Process Team's recommendations to improve the reimbursable process and correct NASA's current inability to combine financial and nonfinancial information in the Agency's accounting system.

Recommendation 5. Establish policy and procedures to account for the costs of NASA's nonreimbursable SAAs.

Recommendation 6. Consider identifying and including high-level program objectives and key safety elements in future Announcement for Proposals when using funded SAAs to develop spaceflight capabilities.

Recommendation 7. Codify the current milestone management procedures used in the commercial cargo and crew programs into a NASA directive, requirements document, or guide.