

It is a pleasure to report to you that our subject study is well under way and we have made great progress! In our study proposal we set forth the following tasks:

1. Develop a baseline list of space system engineer capabilities with performance levels.
2. Identify system engineering educational programs globally
3. Measure educational programs against needed capabilities
4. Make recommendations for potential improvement
5. Generate and update the space system engineering report

To date, we have reviewed the system engineering capabilities with 7 space-related companies resulting in the list of capabilities shown in the PowerPoint presentation on our study, so item 1. is nearing completion.

We have actually talked with the system engineering leadership and seasoned space system engineers in four organizations (one is not yet shown in the table of results--CNES). By the way, I'd like to give many thanks to Michel Arnaud for his strong support at CNES!

We asked these groups of 3-8 senior space system engineers to rate the SE capabilities as "C", critical to the development of their system engineers, "N", necessary, but not critical, and "O", optional. Only the critical items are shown in the attached Word document--System Engineer Capabilities Assessment Table Results. You will notice some strong agreement in some capabilities and significant differences in others, based on the type of organization responding and the emphasis within their organization.

We have also assessed three university programs in system engineering--one European and two US programs. We worked with the teaching faculty in each university, using the mainline curriculum, teaching materials and books used to assess each program. We then rated each capability that was dealt with in the university programs as "1", knowledge of the capability is provided, "2", students can apply the capability based on the university program, or "3", students learn how to manage others doing the activity. You will notice some strong differences in programs as well.

At this point we have touched on three of the five items above. We hope to continue assessing companies/government organization's system engineering practices along with university programs.

Jeff Hoffman and Sir Martin, we would really like to review your university programs, so please let me know the name of the person (and contact information) responsible for the SE curriculum at your institution so we can set up an assessment.

It is **NECESSARY** that each of you identify key companies, space agencies and universities for our study, so **PLEASE** respond with the names and contact information for one company, one space agency and one university that you believe we should study.