# Dossier: ATLAS SPACE OPERATIONS INC

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $1,249,945.00

**Award Date:** 2022-10-18

**Branch:** USAF

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

ATLAS Space Operations Inc. is a ground-based communications provider specializing in simplified satellite command and control via its proprietary software platform, Freedom™. It offers a cloud-based, globally distributed network of ground stations as a service (GSaaS), enabling satellite operators to communicate with their assets more efficiently, securely, and affordably than traditional methods. ATLAS aims to solve the problem of ground station infrastructure limitations and complexity that hinder satellite operations, particularly for emerging space companies and government entities seeking reliable and scalable communications solutions. Their unique value proposition lies in providing a comprehensive, integrated platform combining ground station access, scheduling, data processing, and secure communication protocols, thereby reducing operational costs and complexity for satellite operators.

**Technology Focus:**

* Freedom™ Platform:\*\* A cloud-based software platform providing secure and automated scheduling, command and control, and data processing capabilities for satellite operations. It uses a proprietary scheduling algorithm optimized for network efficiency and data throughput.
* Global Ground Station Network:\*\* A network of company-owned and partner-owned ground stations strategically located around the globe, offering redundant and geographically diverse communication points. As of late 2023, this included locations spanning multiple continents and frequency bands.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* DoD Contracts:\*\* Awarded multiple contracts from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), including contracts with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) and the Space Development Agency (SDA) for ground station services and technology development. These have included supporting missions utilizing laser communications.
* Partnerships:\*\* Established partnerships with various satellite operators and technology providers to expand service offerings and customer base. Examples include agreements to integrate with optical communication systems.
* Expansion of Ground Station Network:\*\* Continuously expanding its global ground station network through new installations and strategic partnerships, increasing capacity and coverage for its customers. This includes incorporating more optical ground stations.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Sean McDaniel (CEO):\*\* Extensive experience in technology leadership and business development, particularly in the aerospace and defense industries.
* Brad Bode (CTO):\*\* Prior experience in developing and deploying satellite communication systems and related technologies. Possesses deep expertise in software engineering and cloud computing.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* KSAT (Kongsberg Satellite Services):\*\* A major player in the GSaaS market with a large, established ground station network. ATLAS differentiates itself through its proprietary Freedom™ software platform, which offers advanced automation and integration capabilities.
* Amazon Web Services (AWS) Ground Station:\*\* A competing GSaaS offering from a major cloud provider. ATLAS differentiates through its focused expertise and tailored solutions specifically designed for satellite operators, including complex or unique mission requirements, as opposed to a broader general-purpose cloud offering.

**Sources:**

1. [https://www.atlasground.com/](https://www.atlasground.com/)

2. [https://spacenews.com/company/atlas-space-operations/](https://spacenews.com/company/atlas-space-operations/)

3. [https://www.defense.gov/](https://www.defense.gov/) (Search for relevant contracts)

4. [https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/atlas-space-operations](https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/atlas-space-operations)