# Dossier: CAPELLA SPACE CORP

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $9,998,447.45

**Award Date:** 2024-07-29

**Branch:** USAF

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Capella Space Corp. is a US-based company specializing in synthetic aperture radar (SAR) satellite imagery and analytics. Their primary business is providing on-demand, high-resolution SAR data and intelligence to government and commercial clients globally. Capella aims to solve the problem of limited Earth observation capabilities due to weather conditions (clouds and rain) and day/night restrictions, offering 24/7, all-weather monitoring capabilities. Their unique value proposition lies in their high-resolution SAR imagery, frequent revisits, and ability to task satellites for specific data collection needs, combined with advanced analytics derived from the SAR data for a range of applications including defense, infrastructure monitoring, and maritime awareness.

**Technology Focus:**

* Constellation of high-resolution SAR satellites: Capella Space operates a constellation of small, but powerful, SAR satellites that can penetrate clouds and darkness. Each satellite can be tasked directly by the customer.
* Spotlight SAR Mode: Offers imagery with a resolution of up to 0.5 meters x 0.5 meters, providing highly detailed data for identifying and analyzing objects on the ground.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* May 2023:\*\* Announced successful demonstration of direct downlink to tactical ground stations, enabling near-real-time delivery of SAR imagery to warfighters.
* August 2022:\*\* Secured a contract with the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) to provide SAR imagery data. Details regarding the value of the contract are not publicly disclosed.
* March 2021:\*\* Raised $97 million in a Series C funding round led by NightDragon.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Payam Banazadeh (CEO):\*\* Previously a project manager and engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).

**Competitive Landscape:**

* ICEYE:\*\* Similar to Capella, ICEYE also provides on-demand SAR imagery. Capella differentiates itself by emphasizing its highest resolution imagery in the commercial market and focus on integrated analytics.

**Sources:**

* [https://www.capellaspace.com/](https://www.capellaspace.com/)
* [https://spacenews.com/capella-space-demonstrates-direct-downlink-to-tactical-ground-stations/](https://spacenews.com/capella-space-demonstrates-direct-downlink-to-tactical-ground-stations/)
* [https://www.capellaspace.com/press/capella-space-raises-97m-series-c-funding-to-accelerate-global-growth/](https://www.capellaspace.com/press/capella-space-raises-97m-series-c-funding-to-accelerate-global-growth/)
* [https://www.nro.gov/News/Article-View/Article/3119150/nro-awards-commercial-imagery-contracts-to-spur-innovation/](https://www.nro.gov/News/Article-View/Article/3119150/nro-awards-commercial-imagery-contracts-to-spur-innovation/)